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Admirable CURIOSITIES Rarities & Wonders in England Scotland & Irland

K. Henry 3. Preaching to ye Monks .pa. 88

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ADMIRABLE 4

CURIOSITIES
Rarities *and* Wonders
IN
England, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*.

OR,

An Account of many Remarkable Persons, and Places, and likewise of the Battels, Sieges, Prodigious Earthquakes, Tempests, Inundations, Thunders, Lightnings, Fires, Murders, and other considerable Occurrences, and Accidents for several Hundred Years past. Together with the Natural, and Artificial Rarities in every County, and many other observable matters;

As they are recorded by the most Authentick, and Credible Historians of former and latter Ages.

Adorned with the Lively Description of several Memorable things therein contained, Ingraven on Copper Plates.

By *R. B.* Author of the History of the Wars of *England*, &c. Remarks *of* London, *&c.*

The second Edition *Enlarged.*

London, Printed by *John Richardson*, for *Nath. Crouch*, at the *Bell* in the *Poultry*, near *Cheapside*, 1684.

BIBLIOTHECA · BODLEIANA

TO THE READER.

HAving already published a brief Treatise called, Historical Remarks of London and Westminster, which hath found general acceptation, I was encouraged to prosecute the same design, upon every County in England, as also in Wales, Scotland and Ireland, wherein the Reader cannot be so unreasonable to expect an exact description of every Town or considerable place, that having been already performed at large by divers others; this being only a Collection of the Natural, and Artificial Curiosities, Rarities and Wonders, and likewise of several Remarkable Places, and Persons, with the Prodigious Accidents in each County, as I find them in Mr. Fox, Dr. Heylin, Dr. Fuller, Sir Rich. Baker, Mr. Speed, Mr. Clark, and several other Authors of credit, which I have not particularly named to every Relation, because it

would have taken up too much room, most of the particulars herein being very well known to the Learned, and for others it will not signify much, since this is published for the sake of those that are desirous of knowledge, but are not in a capacity to buy a multitude of Books; now though the Title speaks of Battels and Seiges, yet I have purposely omitted all of that kind which have happened in our late Civil Wars, *as having already published a book of the same price with this, wherein is a succinct* Account *of all the Transactions during the Reign of K.* Charles *the* 1. *till his Majesties Happy Restauration; I desire it may please all, since I intend to offend none, but only to serve the Publick and my self, wherein if I find success, I shall be very well satisfied, neither can the Reader be much displeased to have so much variety for so little money, and to find that notwithstanding some think there are no wonders but in other Countries, he may yet observe there are it may be as strange things at home, as in other places.*

R. B.

Of

Of *BRITTAIN.*

THE Iſland of *Brittain* is of all others the moſt famous, and has been accounted the greateſt in the World; it comprehendeth all thoſe Iſlands both great and leſs, which lie in compaſs about it, the length thereof from South to North (that is from *Lyzard* Point in *Cornwal*, to the North of *Scotland*,) is 624 miles, and the breadth thereof from the Lands end in *Cornwal*, to the Iſle of *Thanet* in *Kent* about 300 *Engliſh* miles; It is a Countrey alwaies very temperate, and was highly eſteemed by the *Romans*, as appears by what hath been ſaid concerning it, by one of their Orators, who calls it, the happy and moſt fortunate Iſland, endued by nature with all the bleſſings of Heaven and Earth, in that therein is neither extream cold in Winter, nor ſcorching heats in Summer, and that which is moſt comfortable, *long daies, and very lightſom nights*; wherein there is ſuch an abundance of Grain, as may ſuffice both for Bread and Wine; the Woods thereof are without wild Beaſts, the Fields without noyſom Serpents, but therein are vaſt numbers of Milch Beaſts, and Sheep weighed down with their own Fleeces. To which may be added what *Alfred* the Poet of *Beverly* writ long ſince of *Brittain.*

Inſula prædives, quæ toto vix eget orbe, &c.
A wealthy Iſland which no help deſires,
Yet all the world ſupply from her requires,

Able to glut King *Solomon* with pleaſures;
And ſurfeit Great *Auguſtus* with her Treaſures.

As to the name *Brittain* there is no great certainty of its Original; that which hath paſſed for currant in former times (when almoſt all Nations did pretend to be of *Trojan* Race) was, that it took this name from *Brutus*, affirmed to be the Son of *Silvius*, Grand-child of *Æneas*, and third King of the *Latines* of the *Trojan* Blood, which *Brutus* having unfortunately killed his Father, and thereupon flying from *Italy* with his Friends and followers, after a long Voyage, and many wanderings, is ſaid to have fallen upon this Iſland, and to have conquered here a race of Giants, and having given unto it the name of *Brittain*, to leave the Soveraignty thereof to his poſterity, who quietly enjoyed the ſame, till ſubdued by the *Romans*; but this Tradition hath been ſince laid aſide, as altogether fabulous, ſince the *Roman* Hiſtorians never mention either *Brutus* or the Giants, *Cæſar* telling us, that he found the *Brittains* under many Kings, and never under the command of one ſole Prince, but in times of Danger; it is therefore more probable that it was derived from *Brit*, which in the *Britiſh Language* ſignifies *Painted*, and the word *Tain* a Nation, agreeable to the cuſtom of the Ancient *Brittains*, who uſed to diſcolour and paint their Bodies, that they might ſeem more terrible in the Eyes of their Enemies, ſuch as the *Romans* called afterwards *Picts*, or Painted Men; other particulars may be obſerved in the deſcription of thoſe parts into which it is now divided, that is, 1. *England*, 2. *Wales*, 3. *Scotland*.

ENGLAND is bounded on the Eaſt with the *German*; on the Weſt with the *Iriſh*; on the South with the *Britiſh* Oceans; and on the North with the Rivers of *Tweed* and *Solway*, and thereby parted from *Scotland*, invironed with Turbulent Seas, guarded by inacceſſible Rocks, and where theſe are wanting, preſerved againſt all Forreign Invaſions by ſtrong Forts, and a puiſant Navy.

tory. The whole Island was first called *Albion*, either from the story of one of the Giants so called, or *Ab albis Rupibus, the white Rocks* toward *France*, which name continued till the time of *Egbert* the first *Saxon* Monarch, who called the Southern parts thereof *England*, from the *Angles*, who with the *Jutts* and *Saxons* conquered it; *Pelagius* being Bishop of *Rome*, *Gregory* seeing some beautiful Children in the Market-place of *Rome* to be sold, he inquireth what Countrey they were of, who answered *Angli* (*Englishmen*) and were Heathens; *what pity is it* (saith he) *that the Inhabitants being so fair and Angelical of Countenance, should yet be subject to the power of Darkness*; asking further of what Province they were, they answered *Deira* (a Province in *England* then so called) *These People* (saith he) *are to be delivered de Ira Dei, from the Wrath of God*; and understanding the name of one of the Youths was *Alle*, *They ought* (saies he) *to sing Alleluiah to the living God*; upon this *Gregory* was mighty desirous to come hither to convert these Heathens, but could not at that time, yet after *Pelagius* his death being chosen Bishop of *Rome*, and remembring his former intentions, he sent *Austin* with about 40 more Preachers to undertake this worke. This Nation enjoys a soil equally participating of ground fit for Tillage or Pasture; most of her other Plenties and Ornaments are expressed in this old verse following.

Anglia Mons, Pons, Fons, Ecclesia, Fœmina, Lana,
For Mountains, Bridges, Rivers, Churches fair,
Women, and Wool, *England* is past compare.

For the Mountains here and there lift up their lofty heads, and give a gallant prospect to the lower grounds; some of them having Mines in their Bowels, or else are clothed with Sheep, or adorned with Woods; the Bridges are in number 857, the chief whereof are *Rochester* Bridge over *Medway*; *Bristol* Bridge over *Avon*; and *London* Bridge over the *Thames*; the Rivers are 325, the principal being the *Thames*, of which a *German* Poet hath truly spake

Tot Campos, Sylvas, tot Regia tecta, tot Hortos, &c.

We saw so many Woods and Princely Bowers,
Sweet Fields, brave Pallaces, and stately Towers;
So many Gardens drest with curious care,
That *Thames* with Royal *Tyber* may compare.

The Churches before the General Suppression of Abbies, were most exquisite. The Women are generally handsomer than in other places, sufficiently endowed with natural Beauties, without the Adulteration of Art. In an absolute Woman *(*say the *Italians)* are required the parts of a *Dutch* Woman from the Girdle downward, of a *French* Woman from the Girdle to the Shoulders, over which must be placed an *English* Face; as their Beauties so likewise their Prerogatives are the greatest of any Nation, neither so servilely submissive as the *French*, nor so jealously guarded as the *Italian*, but keeping so true a *decorum*, that as *England* is termed the *Purgatory of Servants, and the Hell of Horses*, so it is acknowledged the *Paradise of Women*: And it is a common by-word among the *Italians, That if there were a Bridge built over the narrow Seas, all the Women of* Europe *would run into* England: For here they have the upper hand in the Streets, the upper place at the Table, the Thirds of their Husbands Estates, and their equal share in all Lands; which are Priviledges wherewith other Women are not acquainted; they were of high esteem in former times amongst Forreign Nations, for the modesty and gravity of their Conversations, but the Women of these times are so much addicted to the light Garb of the *French*, that they have lost much of their honour and reputation among sober Persons abroad, who before admired them. The Wool of *England* is of exceeding fineness, of which are made excellent broad cloaths, dispersed over all the World, to the great benefit of *England*, as well in return of so much money which is made of them, as in setting to work so many poor People, who from it receive sustenance.

Having thus briefly gone through the Method of the

old

old Verſe, it is time now we ſhould look upon the Men, and they are commonly of a comely Feature, and a gracious Countenance, for the moſt part grey Eyed, pleaſant, beautiful, bountiful, courteous, and much reſembling the *Italians* in Habit and Pronunciation; In matters of War they are both able to endure, and ready to undertake the hardeſt Enterpriſes, and for their Courage are deſervedly renowned throughout the World. K. *Edw.* 3. and his Son did carry their victorious Arms through all *France*: K. *Hen.* 6. was crowned King at *Paris*: The D. of *Bedford* was Regent of *France*, and being ſlain in a Battle, was buried in *Roan*, whoſe Monument when *Charles* the 8. K. of *France* came to ſee, a Nobleman ſtanding by, advized him to raze it, *Nay*, (anſwered he) *let him reſt in peace now being dead, of whom in War, whilſt he lived, all* France *ſtood in fear.* Marſhal *Biron* ſaid, *He liked not the* Engliſh *March*, (being beaten by the Drum) *becauſe it was ſo ſlow*; Sir *Roger Williams* a gallant Souldier, anſwered him, *That as ſlow as it was, yet it had gone through all* France. Our Wooden Walls, the Ships, are a great ſecurity to this Nation, the *Engliſh* having been generally accounted the ſtrongeſt in the World: What ſervice did our Ships do us in 88. Sir *Francis Drake*, and after him *Thomas Cavendiſh* Eſq; within the ſpace of Three Years, and Three Months, travelled about the Globe of the whole Earth. Sir *Richard Greenvill* in a Ship of Q. *Elizabeths* fought againſt a great Navy of the *Spaniards*, and this ſingle Veſſel was fought with in turns by 15 other great Ships, whereof the great St. *Philip* of 1500 Tuns, Prince of the 12 Sea Apoſtles, was one, yet this valiant Knight ſunk Two of their beſt Ships, and killed a Thouſand Men: He is called by the *Spaniards* ſtill, *Don Richard* of the *Greenfild*, and they fright their Children with him Our Nation without vanity may aſſume to it ſelf the Praiſe, conſidering its narrow Limits, to have produced as many Scholars, admirable in all degrees of knowledge, as any Country on this ſide the *Alps*, and received the Chriſtian Faith as ſome ſay from S. *Peter* and *Paul*; and

Lucius was the first Christian King of any in *Europe*. Among many other worthy Men, Bishop *Jewel*, Bishop *Andrews*, Bishop *Whitgift*, and Dr. *John Reinolds* are very famous, of the last of whom the following account is very remarkable; this *Jo. Reynolds* had a Brother named *William*, who was at first bred up a Protestant of the Church of *Eng.* and *John* was trained up in Popery beyond the Seas; *William* out of an honest zeal to reduce his Brother to this Church, made a Journey to him, where after a conference between them, it so fell out that *John* being overcome by his Brothers Arguments returned into *Eng.* where he became a very strict, and serious Protestant, and *William* being convinced by the reasons of his Brother *John* staid beyond Sea, where he proved a very rigid and violent Papist: of which strange accident Dr. *Alabaster* who had tryed both Religions, (and among other had some notable whimsies) made this ingenious Epigram,

Bella inter geminos plusquam Civilia fratres, &c.

In point of Faith some undetermin'd jars
Betwixt two Brothers kindled Civil Wars;
One for the Churches Reformation stood,
The other thought no Reformation good:
The points propos'd, they traversed the Field
With equal skill, and both together yield.
As they desir'd his Brother each subdues,
Yet such their Fate, that each his Faith did lose;
Both Captives, none the Prisoners thence to guide,
The Victor flying to the vanquish't side,
Both joy'd in being Conquered (strange to say)
And yet both mourn'd because both won the day.

The Government of *England* is Monarchical, of a perfect, and happy Constitution, wherein the King hath his full Prerogative, the Nobles all due respect, and the People amongst other blessings, extreamly happy in this, *That they are Masters of their own purposes, and have a strong hand in making their own Laws.* Of all the Seniories in the World (saith *P. Comines* the *French* Historian) the

Realm

Realm of *England* is the Countrey where the Common-wealth is best governed, the People least oppreſt, and the fewest Houſes and Buildings deſtroyed in Civil War. It is a Country always moſt Temperate, the Air is thick, and much ſubject to winds, rain, and dark Clouds and therefore *Gundamore* the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador here in K. *James*'s his time, bid the *Spaniſh* Poſt when he came to *Spain* commend him to the Sun, for he had not ſeen him here a great while, and in *Spain* he ſhould be ſure to find him. The Ocean which beateth upon the Coaſt of this Iſland aboundeth with all manner of Fiſh, and the Meadows and Paſtures with Corn, Cattle, and all other neceſſaries; a *Spaniard* boaſting, *That they had excellent Oranges, Lemmons, and Olives growing in their Country which ours wanted*; Sir *Roger Williams* reply'd, *It is true* (ſaid he) *they do not grow here, yet all this is but ſauce, whereas we have dainty Veal, and well fed Capons to eat with them, with many other delicate Diſhes worth the name of Victuals indeed*; There are more Parks, Forreſts and Chaſes in *England* than in all Chriſtendom beſide, there are in no place of the World greater and larger Dogs than here, which cauſed them to be moſt in requeſt by the *Romans* both for their baitings in their Amphitheaters, and in all other their huntings; the *Engliſh* Cock is a bold and ſtout Fowl, and will fight valiantly with his Adverſary, and preſently crows when he obtains the Victory, which ſeldom happens till Death parts them. There are 44 Shires and Counties in *England*, every Shire conſiſting of ſo many Hundreds, *&c.* and every Hundred of a number of Burroughs, Villages or Tythings, &c. But this may ſuffice by way of Preface, the deſign of this ſmall Tract being not to give a particular, or exact deſcription of every County, and the Towns and Villages therein (ſince that has been largely performed by Mr. *Speed*. Mr. *Blome* and others) but only to contract in a little Volume, and price, the Natural, and Artificial Curioſities and Rarities in *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, with Remarks upon ſome famous Perſons and Places, as alſo an account of the Earthquakes,

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Tempests, Sieges, Battels, and other strange Accidents, and Occurrences that have happened in each County, whereby my Countrey-men may observe that there is hardly any thing worth wondring at abroad in the world, whereof Nature or Art hath not written a Copy in these Islands; and therefore I shall not confine my self so much to methodize matters as to time, as not to let slip any thing considerable; and because I suppose most men have a desire to read something of their own Country first, I have (according to the method of Dr. *Fuller* and others) placed the Counties Alphabetically for the more ready finding of them, and will therefore begin with

BARKSHIRE (whether so called from a striped or bark-bared Oak is uncertain) is bounded by *Wiltshire* on the West, *Hamshire* on the South, *Surry* on the East, *Oxford* and *Buckinghamshire* on the North thereof; the air is temperate, sweet and pleasant, the soil plenteous of Corn, Cattle, Waters, and Woods, so that for pr fit and pleasure it gives place to none; The most remarkable place in this County is *Windsor Castle*, a most Princely Pallace both for strength and State, and hath in it a Colledge for Learning, a Chappel for Devotion, and an Alms-house of decayed Gentlemen for Charity; it is reported to have been built by K. *Arthur*, and K. *William* the Conqueror was so desirous of it, that by composition with the Abbot of *Westminster*, whose then it was, he made it to be the Kings Possession; in this Castle the Victorious K. *Edward* 3. was born, and herein, after he had subdued the *French* and *Scots*, he kept at one time *John* K. of *France*, and *David* King of *Scotland* as his Prisoners; after which he graced it with greater Majesty by instituting the Honourable Order of the Garter, the Institution whereof some ascribe to a Garter occasionally falling from the Countess of *Salisbury*, though others affirm the Garter was given in testimony of that Bond of Love and Affection, wherewith the Knights and Fellows of it were to be bound severally one to another,

thers, and all of them to the King; may some others make it yet more ancient, relating that when K. *Richard* the 1. was at War against the *Turks* and *Saracens* in the *Holy Land*, and that the tediousness thereof began to discourage his Soldiers, he to quicken their courage, tyed about the Legs of several choice Knights a Garter or small Thong of Leather, the only stuff he had at hand, that as the *Romans* used to bestow Crowns and Garlands for encouragements, so this might provoke them to stand together, and fight valiantly for their King, and for their honour. K. *Edward* the Third found a Chappel erected in this Castle by K. *Hen.* 1. and other Princes, with maintenance for eight Canons, to whom he added a Dean, 15 Canons more, and 24 poor Impotent Knights, and other Officers, and Servants; these were to pray for the good Estate of the Soveraign, and Brethren of the most Noble Order; the Soveraign, and Knights had their particular Laws and Constitutions, and K. *Edward* likewise appointed divers Ceremonies, and distinct habits, and St. *George* the pattern of Christian Fortitude is intituled to the Patronage of this Order, and the beautiful happel in *Windsor Castle*, (where his day, being *April* 23. is usually celebrated every year, and new Knights commonly installed,) was consecrated by that King to his memory; there are of this Order twenty six Knights, of which the Kings of *England* are one, and it is so much desired for its worthiness, that 8 Emperors, 21 Forreign Kings, 23 Forreign Dukes and Princes besides divers Noblemen of other Countries have been Fellows of it; The Ensign is a blew Garter buckled on the left Leg, on which these words are imbroidered *Hони soit qui mal y pense*, *Evil to him that Evil thinks*; about their Necks they wear a blew Ribband, at the end of which hangeth the Image of St. *George*; the Hall of this Pallace is remarkable for greatness, *Winchester* Tower for height, and the Terrace on the Northside for pleasure: but his present Majesty K. *Charles* the Second hath added such magnificence to it both within and without, that now for Grandeur, State and Pleasure;

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it exceeds it may be any Pallace of ever a Prince in *Europe*. The Chappel is graced with the Bodies of King *Henry* 6. and K. *Edward* 4. and those whom the whole Kingdom was too little to contain, (the one being of the House of *Lancaster*, and the other of *York*) lie now united in one mould, with the branch of both these Houses, K. *Henry* 8, who there lies interred; and likewise King *Charles* the Martyr.

In the Reign of K. *Henry* 8. 1544. *Anthony Parsons* a Priest, *Robert Testwood* a Singing man of the Quire, and *Henry Filmer* Churchwarden of *Windsor* (who had Articled against their Superstitious Vicar) were all three burnt together at *Windsor*, for the Protestant Profession; when *Parsons* was fastned to the Stake, he laid a great deal of straw on the top of his head, saying, *This is Gods Hat, I am now armed like a Souldier of Christ*; *Robert Testwood* was condemned for dissuading the people from Pilgrimages; for, walking in *Windsor* Chappel, he saw multitudes of Pilgrims that came flocking out of *Devonshire* and *Cornwal*, with Candles and Images to offer at the Shrine of King *Henry* of *Windsor*; *Testwoods* Spirit was much moved to see this Idolatry, and thereupon he mildly exhorted them to leave that false Worship performed to dumb Images, and to learn to Worship the living God aright; shewing them how God plagued his own people the *Jews* for going a Whoring after such stocks and stones, and would certainly plague them and their posterities if they did not reform. This so much prevail'd upon some, that they said *They would never go on Pilgrimage again*; *Testwood* going farther, saw another Company licking and kissing a white Lady of Alabaster that stood behind the high Altar, rubbing their hands upon it, and then stroaking their heads and faces therewith, which so provoked him, that with a Key he had in his Hand, he struck off a piece of the Images Nose, saying, *See good people, this is nothing but a piece of Earth that cannot help it self, how then is it like to help you?* When these three were burning, King *Hen.* 8. came by the place on Horseback, and having an account of their

Christian

Christian and patient death, the King turning his Horses head, said, *Alas poor Innocents*! a better speech it had been from a private person, than a Prince, who is bound by his Office, not only to pity, but protect oppressed Innocence; however by this occasion other persecuted people were pardoned, and preserved.

There is a proverb in this County, that *the Vicar of Bray, will be Vicar of* Bray *still*; *Bray* is a Village well known in this Shire, and the Ancient Vicar thereof living under K. *Henry* 8. K. *Edward* the 6. Q. *Mary*, and Q. *Elizabeth* was at first a Papist, then a Protestant, then a Papist, then a Protestant again; he had seen some Martyrs burnt two miles off at *Windsor*, and found this Fire too hot for his tender temper; this Vicar being taxed by one for being a Turncoat, and an inconstant Changeling *No*, (said he) *that's your mistake, for I always kept my Principle, which is this, to live and die the Vicar of* Bray; and no doubt there are some still of the same saving Principles, who, though they cannot turn the wind, will turn their Mills, and set them so, that wherever it bloweth, their Grist will certainly be grinded.

In the Reign of K. *Will. Rufus* 1100. at *Finchamsted* in this County a Well boyled up with streams of blood, and continued so 15 days together, and the waters discoloured all others where they came; and great flames of fire were seen in divers places at several times. In the year 1348. there was a very great Plague all over *Europe*, and then was *Wallingford*, (being a bigger, and more considerable Town than now it is) almost dispeopled with it. In 1237. *Ottobon* a Cardinal came as Legate from the Pope to K *Henry* 3. and lying at *Osney* Abby, there happened a difference between his Servants, & the Scholars at *Oxford*, in which contention a Brother of his was slain, and the Legate for fear got him into a Steeple, till the Kings Officers coming from *Abingdon*, conveyed him to *Wallingford*, after which the Cardinal carried and interdicted the Scholars and University, so that the Colledges grew desolate, and the Students were dispersed into other places for half a years time, till the

Monks

Monks and Masters of the University were forced to go bare-footed, and bare-headed a great way to the Legates Lodgings, and there upon their humble submission, and great Mens intercession, they were pardoned and absolved, and the University restored to its former Estate; such was the pride of the Superior, and the base-spiritedness of the Inferiour Clergy in these days of Popery, and Slavery. In the time of *Hen. 6.* 1431. certain lewd Persons began an Insurrection at *Abington*, which might have occasioned much mischief, if the chief Author thereof one *Mundevile* a Weaver had not been taken and hanged. In the year 1647. Several freakish and enthusiastick Women at *Newbery* in this County pretended to Divine Revelations, and Dreams, wherein very glorious things were discovered to them, and the chief of them had such strange gestures and Fits, as astonished the Spectators; this Woman declared she had a Revelation that such a night she should be taken up into Heaven, at which time many of her deluded Followers assembled together, and took their solemn leave of her with Tears, and the hour being come, out they all go to see her ascension; it was a Moonshine night, and as they expected, when an Angel should fetch her up in a Chariot, a Cloud covers the Moon, whereupon they all cry out, *Behold he comes in the Clouds*, but the Cloud soon vanished, and thereby their hopes were frustrated, after a while comes a flock of Wild-Geese a great way off, upon which they again cry out, *He comes, he comes*; but when the Wild-Geese were gone, they were fain at length to return home again as wise as they came, having made themselves ridiculous to the Spectators.

Reading is the chief Town in this Shire. It is divided into 20 Hundreds, wherein there are 12 Market Towns, 140 Parishes, and out of it are Elected 9 Parliament Men, that is, for the County 2; *New-Windsor* 2; *Reading* 2 *Wallingford* 2 & *Abington* 1. *Eaton* is adjoining to *Windsor* by a wooden Bridge over the *Thames*, wherein there is a fair Colledge of that name, and a famous Schol

of

of good Learning, founded and built by K. *Henry* 6. in which besides the Provost, 8 Fellows, and the singing Choristers, there are 60 Schollars instructed in Grammar, and in due time preferred to the University of *Cambridge*; this County is in the Dioceſs of *Salisbury*, and gives the Title of Earl to the Right Honourable *Thomas L. Howard*.

BEDFORDSHIRE hath *Northamptonshire* on the North; *Huntington*, and *Cambridgeshire* on the East, *Hartfordshire* on the South, and *Buckinghamshire* on the West thereof; in the year 1399, just before the Wars broke out between the Houses of *Lancaster* and *York*, on New-years-day, the deep River which runs between *Sullom* and *Harwood* (two Villages not far from *Bedford* Town) called *Ouse*, suddenly stood still, and divided itself, so that by the space of three miles, the bottom remained dry, and backwards the waters swel'd up to a great height, which wonder many judicious Persons thought did presage the division of the People & falling away from the King; and a while after in a little Town in this County it rained blood, the red drops whereof appeared in sheets hung out to dry. In the 22. of Q. *Elizabeth*, 1580. there fell such great rains in *September* and *October*, as caused very great flouds in divers parts of the Kingdom; in *Newport* the Cottages were born down, and the Corn lost; in *Bedford* the water came up to the Market place, where their Houshold-stuff swum about their Houses, their Wood, Corn, and Hay were carried away; and the Town of St. *Neots* in *Huntingtonshire* was suddainly overflowed, while the Inhabitants were in bed; the waters brake in with such violence, that the Town was all defaced, the Swans swum down the Market-place; *Godmanchester* was also overflown, their Houses being full of water, and their Cattle destroyed. At St. *Neots* in K. *Hen* 7ths time there fell Hailstones, which were measured 18 inches about. At, *Ashby* near *Woburn* in this County, there is a little Rivolet the Earth whereof it is reported, turneth Wood into Stone, and that a wooden Ladder was to be seen in the

Monastery

Monastery hard by, which having lain a great while covered all over with it, was digged out again all stone; Take the strange operation of it from his Pen, who though a Poet, is a credible Author:

The Brook which on her bank do's boast that earth alone
(Much noted in this Isle,) converteth wood to stone.
This little *Aspleys* Earth we anciently instile
Mongst sundry other things a wonder of the Isle.

There is another of the same nature in *Northamptonshire*, of which hereafter. In 1507. *Thomas Chase*, a Religious sober Man, being a very zealous opposer of *Popish* Idolatry and Superstition, was thereupon brought before the Bishop at *Woburn*, (by means of some malicious Informers,) who proposed divers questions to him, intermixt with many Taunts, Jears, and Reproaches; *Chase* answered him very undauntedly, defending the Truth against *Popish* errors boldly, for which he was committed into the Bishops Prison called *Little East*, where he lay cruelly manacled with Chains and Fetters, and almost starved for hunger, which when the Bishop saw did not prevail upon him, but that the more severely he was used, he was the more fervent in defending the Protestant Faith, he resolved privately to murder him for fear of an uproar amongst the people, and accordingly soon after ordered him to be strangled, and pressed to death in the Prison, he still heartily calling upon God to receive his Spirit; the Bishop causing it to be reported that he had hanged himself in Prison. This was in the Reign of K. *Henry* 7. In 1506. One *William Tilsworth* was condemned by Dr. *Smith*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, for Heresy, and burnt in this County, at his burning his only Daughter a Religious Woman, and Wife to one *Clark*, was compelled by the bloody Papists to set fire with her own hands to her dear Father; and at the same time *John Clark* her Husband, with many others did penitance by bearing Faggots, and were burnt in the cheek with an hot Iron; and about two years after *Thomas Bernard*, Husbandman, and *James Melvin*, Labourer,

ter, were both burnt for the Proteſtant Religion in one Fire in this Shire.

The chief Town of this County is *Bedford*, moſt fruitfully and pleaſantly ſeated; without the Town there formerly ſtood a Chappel upon the bank of the River *Ouſe*, wherein (as ſome Authors affirm) the Body of *Offa* the great *Mercian* King was interred, but by the overſwelling of that River was carryed away, and ſwallowed up, whoſe Tomb of *Lead* (as if it were ſome Phantaſtical thing) appeared often to them that ſought it not, but to them that ſeek it (ſaith *Roſs*) it is inviſible. In K. *Henry* 3. his Reign, while a Parliament was ſitting at *Northampton*, an unſufferable outrage was complained of to them, committed by one *Falcacius* a *Norman* by birth, who ſeized upon *Henry Braybrook* a Judge, as he was upon the Bench at the Aſſizes at *Dunſtable*, and clapped him cloſe Priſoner in *Bedford-Caſtle* with a ſtrong Guard upon him, becauſe 30 Verdicts had paſſed againſt him upon Tryals at Law for Lands which he had forceably entred upon; the Judges Wife came to the Parliament, and with her Tears and complaint ſo moved them with pity and indignation, that all other matters laid aſide the Clergy, as well as Laity attended the King to beſiege the Caſtle, *Falcacius* being Governour thereof, was gone himſelf into *Wales* with hopes of raiſing more Forces to maintain his Rebellion, but had left his Brother Lieutenant in his room, with a deſperate crew of Villains, and all manner of Ammunition, and Proviſion ſufficient for a whole years Siege; yet after 2 Months the Caſtle was taken by Storm, the Lieutenant and all his Companions hanged, and the Caſtle it ſelf pul'd down to the ground as a den of Thieves, and to deter all others for the future from committing ſuch Villanous and Treaſonable Crimes. This *Falcacius* (as we ſaid) was a *French-man* born, and a Baſtard, and came over in K. *Johns* time in a very mean condition, by whom for his Courage he was made Governour of *Bedford Caſtle*, to defend it againſt the Barons, where by plunder and Rapine, he got a great deal of money together, K. *John* like-

likewiſe forcing a Lady who was a great Heireſs to Marry him, no leſs to her own diſcontent, than diſparagement; but now when his Caſtle was thus unexpectedly levelled to the Earth, and all his Eſtate ſeized to the King, he prevails with the Biſhop of *Coventry* to bring him to the King at *Bedford*, where throwing himſelf at the Kings feet, he implores his mercy for his former good Services, which he with difficulty obtained, but upon condition to be ſent into perpetual baniſhment, which was done accordingly, and the King was ſo incenſed at the keeping of his Caſtle againſt him, that he thereupon commanded all *Frenchmen* to depart by a a time limited under a very ſevere penalty. In the 7th of Queen *Elizabeth*; *Henry Cheyney*, High Sheriff of *Bedfordſhire* was created Baron of *Tuddington* in this County, in his Youth he was very wild and ventrous, witneſs his playing at Dice with *Henry* 2. King of *France*, from whom he won a Diamond of great worth at a caſt, and being demanded by the King what ſhift he would have made to repair himſelf in caſe he had loſt the caſt, *I have* (ſaid young *Cheyney* in a huffing bravery) *Sheeps Tails enough in* Kent (where he had an Eſtate) *with their Wool, to buy a better Diamond than this*; in his latter age he was much reduced, and very grave, dying without iſſue.

Dunſtable is ſeated in a chalky ground well inhabited, and full of Inns, hath four Streets anſwerable to the four Quarters of the world, in every one of which there is a pond of ſtanding water for the publick uſe of the Inhabitants; a Tale of vain credit is reported of this Town, that it was built to bridle the outragiouſneſs of a ſtrong Thief called *Dun*, by K. *Henry* 1. but certain it is, that the place was held by the *Romans*, yet Sir *John Heyward* ſaith, *Dun* was a famous Thief among others, and Commander over the reſt, and of him the place was called *Dunſtable*. This County is divided into 9 Hundreds, wherein are 10 Market Towns, and 116 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *London*; it Elects only 4 Parliament Men, two for the County, and two for the Town of *Bedford*, and gives the Title of

Earl

tal to the Right Honourable *William* L. *Ruſſel.*

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE hath on the Eaſt *Hertfordſhire* and *Bedfordſhire*, on the Weſt *Oxfordſhire*, on the North *Northamptonſhire*, and *Huntingdonſhire*, and on the South *Hertfordſhire*; it hath its name from the plenty of Beech-trees, which the *Saxons* called *Bucken*, with which the Country was formerly ſo over-run, that it was altogether impaſſible, and became a refuge for Thieves and Robbers, and occaſioned that Proverb in this Country, *Here a Buſh, and there a Thief*, for which cauſe they were cut down. In 1665, *Jan.* 20. about ſix a clock at night there was an Earthquake in ſome parts of *Buckinghamſhire*, which was attended with an unuſual kind of noiſe in the Air, but was quickly over; it much frighted ſome People on the ſudden, to feel their Chairs and Stools quake under them, and to hear Tables, and ſuch things to clatter in the rooms; and the whole Houſe to ſhake, this Information (ſaith Mr. *Clark* in his Examp. p. 2.) I had from an honeſt Miniſter in that County.

K *William* the Conqueror gave a Mannor and certain Yardlands in *Buckinghamſhire* to a Perſon upon this Condition, *That the Poſſeſſor or Owner thereof ſhould find Straw or Litter for the Kings Bed whenſoever he came that way*; which ſhews what an alteration there is as to matter of Grandeur ſince that time. The beſt and biggeſt bodied Sheep in *England*, are in the Vale of *Alisbury* in this County, where it is nothing to give Ten pound or more for a *Breed-Ram*, ſo that ſhould a Forreigner hear the price thereof, he would gueſs that Ram to be rather ſome *Roman* Engine of Battery, than the Creature commonly ſo called; I know not (ſaith Dr. *Fuller*) whether his Obſervation with the reaſon thereof be worth the inſerting, who firſt took notice that our Cattle for food are *Engliſh*, when feeding in the Field, but *French* when fed on in a Family, as for example.

English. 1. Sheep. 2. Ox. 3. Calf. 4. *Hog.* 5. Pig.
French. 1. Mutton. 2. Beef. 3. Veal. 4. Bacon. 5. Pork.

Whereof

whereof the Author aſſigns this Reaſon, that after the *Norman* Conqueſt the *French* ſo Tyrannized over the *Engliſh* Tenants, that they forced them to keep and feed their Cattle, but the *Mounſieurs* eat all the good meat after it was killed, and dreſt to their hands. Forreigners much admire at our *Engliſh* Sheep, becauſe they do not (as thoſe in other Countreys) follow their Shepheards like a pack of Dogs, but wander all abroad; and the *Popiſh* Prieſts tell their ignorant Flocks, *That this diſobedience of our Sheep happened to us, becauſe we have left their great Shepherd the Pope,* (a very profound reaſon) whereas our Sheep did the ſame long before our ſeparation from *Rome*, becauſe being freed from the fear of Wolves (which infeſt their Flocks beyond Sea) they feed ſafely in the Fields, wanting neither guide to direct them, nor Guard to defend them.

Roger Wendover was born at a Market Town of that name in this County, and was bred a Benedictine in St. *Albans*, where he became the Kings Hiſtorian, and it is obſervable, that our *Engliſh* Kings had alwaies a Monk, generally of St. *Albans* (as being near *London*, the Staple of News and Cooks) to write the moſt remarkable paſſages of their Reign, and ſome add, that their Chronicles were locked up in the Kings Library, and were never ſuffered to be opened in that Kings, nor his Sons life, if ſo they had a great incouragement to be impartial, not fearing a blow on their Teeth, though coming near to the heels of Truth; as being hereby in ſome kind tyed up from doing them any hurt; this *Roger* began his Chronicle at the Conqueſt, and continued it to 1235. which *Matthew Paris* and others carried down further after his death. The Lady *Heſter Temple*, Wife to Sir *Thomas Temple*, was born at *Latimers* in this County, ſhe had 4 Sons, and 9 Daughters, who lived to be Married, and ſo exceedingly multiplyed, that this Lady ſaw ſeven hundred extracted from her own Body; *Vives* tells of a Village in *Spain* of about an 100 Houſes, whereof all the Inhabitants iſſued out of one certain old Man who then lived, and ſays, the *Spaniſh* Language did not afford

a

name whereby the youngeſt ſhould call the Elder, ſince they could not go above the Great Grandfathers Father; but had the Off-ſpring of this Lady been contracted into one place, they were enough to have peopled a City of a competent proportion, though her iſſue was not ſo long in ſucceſſion as broad in extent, this Lady dyed in 1656. Sir *Edward Cook*, that famous commentator of the Law was born in this ſhire. One time a Parliament was called, and the Court Party being jealous of Sir *Edwards* Activity againſt them, as not having digeſted the diſcontent he had received from thence, thereupon to prevent his Election as a Member, and confine him to this County, he was pricked Sheriff thereof; he thereupon ſcrupled to take the Oath, alledging many things againſt it, and particularly that the Sheriff is bound thereby to proſecute *Lollards*, wherein the beſt Chriſtians may be included; but no excuſes would ſerve his turn, he muſt ſerve the Office, however his Friends beheld it as an injurious degradation of him who had been Lord Chief Juſtice to attend on the Judges at the Aſſizes.

Buckingham is the ſhire Town of this County, fruitfully ſeated upon the River *Ouſe*, and was fortified formerly with Rampires, and a ſtrong Caſtle mounted on a high Hill, whereof nothing now remains but ſome ſmall ſigns of ſuch a place. It is divided into 8 Hundreds, wherein are 15 Market Towns. 185 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Lincoln*; out of it are Elected 14 Parliament Men; For the County 2. *Buckingham* 2, *Chipping Wicomb* 2. *Alisbury* 2. *Agmondiſham* 2. *Wendover* 2. and *Marlow* 2. It gives Titles to *George Villiers*, Duke of *Buckingham*, and *Robert Bruce*, Earl of *Alisbury*.

CAMBRIDGSHIRE is bounded on the North with *Lincolnſhire* and *Norfolk*, upon the Eaſt with *Norfolk*, and *Suffolk*, on the South with *Hartfordſhire* and *Eſſex*, and on the Weſt with the Counties of *Bedford* and *Huntingdon*; ſo named from River *Came*, which divides it in the midſt, upon the Eaſt Banks whereof ſtands the famous Univerſity of *Cambridge*; from whence for many

ny hundred years have issued the streams of learned Sciences in all other parts of the Kingdom; it is ancient indeed if the story be true that it was built by one *Cantabria* a *Spaniard*, 375 years before the Birth of our Saviour; it was formerly called *Grantchester*, and in *Bedes* time about 700 years after Christ, was laid in Ruines by the Tyranny of the times, and is described as a little desolate City without Inhabitants, or any memory of its being incompassed with Walls; the Monk of *Burton* reports that in 141. nine Students of this City received Baptism, and became Preachers of the Gospel among the *Brittains*, in the time of *Adrian* the Emperor, but when the *Picts*, *Scots*, *Huns*, and *Saxons*, had laid all things waste, and with their savage Swords cut out the leaves of all civil Learning, this City as the rest fell to destruction, and so lay forlorn, till the *Saxons* themselves became civilized, when *Sigibert* the first Christian King of the *East Angles* (by the example of *France*, whither he had been banished) built Schools in this Kingdom, and here at *Grantchester*, or *Cambridge* the chief, recalling thither the Professors of Arts and Sciences, who began so to increase, that the place grew too little for the Students, and therefore inlarging more Northward, seated themselves near the Bridge, upon which the place was called *Grantbridge*, and afterward *Cambridge*: it was again much damaged by the *Danes*, but after the *Norman* Conquest three Monks resorted to this place, and in the Reign of K. *Hen.* 1. read Lectures in a publick Barn, in Grammar, Logick, Rhetorick, &c. and one *Gislebert* read Divinity upon the Lords, and other Festival Days; from this little Fountain (saith an Ancient Author) grew a great River, which made all *England* fruitful. The first Colledge therein endowed was *Peter-house*, built by the Bishop of *Ely* 1284. whose worthy example many others followed, so that there are now sixteen stately Colledges and Halls, which for building, beauty and endowments, and number of Students, exceed any other in *Europe*, except her Sister *Oxford*: in the Reign of K. *Edward* 1. of a School *Cambridge* was

by

Emma goes blindfold & barefoot over 9 burning plowshares at Wincheſter. Pa. 87.

by the Court of *Rome* made an Univerſity, in the 21 of whoſe Reign a great part of the Town, and the Church of St. *Maries* was burnt.

Upon *Midſummer* Eve, 1626. a Codfiſh was brought to the Market in *Cambridge*, and there cut up for Sale, and in the Maw thereof there was found a Book in Twelves, bound up in Canvas, containing ſeveral Treatiſes of Mr. *John Friths*; this Fiſh was caught upon the Coaſts of *Lin*, called *Lindeeps*, by one *William Skinner*; the Fiſh being cut open, the Garbidge was thrown by, which a Woman looking upon, eſpied the Canvas, and taking it out, found the Book wrapped up in it, which was much ſoiled, and covered over with a kind of ſlime and congealed matter; this was looked upon with great admiration, and by *Benjamine Prime*, the Batchelors Beadle, who was preſent at the opening of the Fiſh, was carried to the Vice-Chancellor, who took ſpecial notice of it, examining the particulars before-mentioned; the leaves of the Book were carefully opened and cleanſed, the Treatiſes contained in it, were *A Preparation for the Croſs, a Preparation for Death, the Treaſure of Knowledge; a Mirrour or Looking-glaſs to know themſelves by; a brief Inſtruction to teach one willingly to dy, and not to fear Death*; they were all re-printed, and how uſeful the reviving of theſe Treatiſes by ſuch a ſpecial Providence hath been, may be eaſily diſcerned by ſuch as have lived ſince theſe times. In the Year 1640. a Pond in *Cambridge* became red as Blood, the water whereof being taken up in Baſons, remained ſtill of the ſame colour, and many ſtrange ſights were ſeen in the Air, as Armies fighting againſt each other, which were lookt on as ſad Preſages of our enſuing Troubles.

Ely another City in this County, was formerly a place very famous for a Nunnery, there founded by *Audrey*, Wife to one *Tombret* a Prince in this Province, who had this place as a part of her Dowry, and ſhe after his death Marrying with a King of *Northumberland*, in a ſhort time left her Husband, and the Rights of Mar-

riage, and according to the Superſtition of thoſe dark times, built this Monaſtery, and became her ſelf firſt Abbeſs thereof; this in the *Daniſh* Deſolations was deſtroyed, but ſoon after re-built by *Ethelwold*, Biſhop of *Wincheſter*, who ſtored it with Monks, to whom K. *Edgar* granted the Juriſdiction over four Hundreds and an half within theſe Fenns, which to this day are called *The Liberties of St.* Audrey; after whoſe example many Nobles ſo inriched it with Revenues, that the Abbot thereof laid up yearly in his own Coffers 1400 pounds; and ſoon after the Monks thereof repaired their old Church with new and ſtately buildings, which now is the Cathedral of the Dioceſs, and for beauty gives place to no other in the Land; *Ely* Minſter preſenteth it ſelf afar off to the Eye of the Traveller, and on all ſides at a great diſtance not only promiſeth, but giveth earneſt of the magnificence thereof; the Lanthorn therein built by Biſhop *Hotham*, (wherein the labour of Twenty Years, and five Thouſand ninety four Pounds, eighteen Shillings ten pence half penny farthing was expended) is a Maſter-piece of Architecture; when the Bells ring, the Wood-work thereof ſhaketh and gapeth (which is no defect but the perfection of Architecture) and exactly falleth into the joints again; rare alſo is the Art in the Chappel of St. *Maries*, and the other of Biſhop *Weſt*, wherein the Maſter Maſons in King *James* his time, on ſerious inſpection found finer Stone work than in K. *Henry* 7. Chappel at *Weſtminſter*.

In 1190. K. *Richard* 1. went into the *Holy Land*, and at his going left in chief place of Authority at home *William Longſhamp* Biſhop of *Ely*, who carried himſelf ſo, that though the things he did were juſtifiable, yet the pride wherewith they were done were unſufferable, ſeldom riding abroad without 500 or 1000 Men in his Train, not for ſafety, but for State, and though others were left in powers beſides, yet he made but Ciphers of them, ruling all as he pleaſed; this inſolency was inſufferable, ſo that ſome holding for, and others againſt him, the Kingdom was in danger to be rent in ſunder, till at

laſt

last the Bishop finding himself too weak for his Enemies, thought it best to fly out of the Kingdom, whereupon for his greater safety disguising himself in Womens Apparel, and carrying a piece of Linnen Cloath under his Arm, he designed in this manner to take Shipping, and go beyond Sea; but being discovered, and known, the Women in revenge of the abuse done to their Cloths in making them the instruments of his deceit, fell upon him, and beat him so, that it might have beaten Humility into him for ever after; this disgrace made him glad to get into *France* his Native Country, where to little purpose he woed the King and Queen for Reparation.

Edward Norgate, Son of Dr. *Robert Norgate*, was born in *Cambridge*, and being very judicious in Pictures, was imployed into *Italy* to buy some for the E. of *Arundel*; returning by *Marseilles*, he missed the money he expected, and being unknown, neither knowing any man there, he was observed by a *French* Gentleman (deservedly so stiled) to walk in the Exchange (as we may call it) of that City, many hours every morning and evening, with swift Feet, and sad face forward and backward, to him the civil Monsieur addressed himself, desiring to know the cause of his discontent, & promised if it were in his power, to help him with his best advice, and assistance. *Norgate* communicated his condition, to whom the other answered, *Pray Sir take my Counsel, I have taken notice that you have walked at least twenty miles a day upwards and downwards, which if it had been spent in going forward, would in a few days have brought you into your own Country. I will if you please furnish you with a light habit, and a competent sum of Money for a Footman, to enable you to walk home*; *Norgate* very chearfully consented, & being accommodated accordingly, footed it through the body of *France*, being more than 500 *English* miles, and so leisurely with ease, safety and health, returned into *England*; he became after the best Limner in our Age, was an excellent Herald, and which was the Crown of all, a right honest man, he died in 1649.

I may here insert (saith Dr. *Fuller*) an artificial wonder, of what is commonly called *Devils Ditch*, Country People conceiting that it was made by the Devil (the lie to be sure was) whereas it was the work of some King or Kings of the *East Angles*; see the lazines of posterity, who are so far from imitating the industry of their Ancestors, that they even libel the pure effects of their pains as Hellish Atchievements! probably it was made to divide and defend their Dominions from the King of *Mercia*, or p ssibly to keep the People in imployment, and for diverting mutinous thoughts; Lazines being the Mother of disloyalty, industry of obedience; this County by reason of the Fens hath but a sickly air; the soil yields good Barly, and store of Saffron; the Herb called *Scordium* (or *Water Germander*) groweth very plentifully in this County, of which *Diascordium* is made; in the Country about the Fenns (saith *Speed*) Water-Fowl is so plentiful and cheap, that five men may be well satisfied with that kind of Fare for les then an half penny; when they have mown their gras in the Fenns, as much as will serve, they set fire on the rest in *November*, that it may come up again in abundance. This County is divided into 17 Hundreds, wherein are eight Market Towns, and 163 Parishes, and electsts 6 Parliament Men, that is for the County 2; University 2; Town of *Cambridge* 2; and has given the Title of Duke to four Sons of the Duke of *York* successively, who are all deceased; it is in the Dioces of *Ely*.

CHESHIRE hath *Lancashire* on the North; *Denby*, *Flintshire*, and the *Irish* Ocean on the West; *Darby* and *Stafford-shires*, on the East; and *Shropshire* on the South; it produces the best Cheese, also Milstones, Fish, Fowl, and all sorts of Cattel; in K. *Richard* 2. time it was made a Principality; the City of *Chester* is the chief Town, and in the daies of King *Edgar* was in a very flourishing condition, he having the homage of 8 other Kings, who rowed his Barge from St. *Johns* to his Pallace, himself holding the helm as their Supream; a fair

stone

ſtone Bridge is built over the River *Dee* upon 8 Arches, at either end whereof is a Gate, from whence the walls incompaſs the City, high and ſtrongly built with four fair Gates opening to the 4 winds, beſides 3 Poſterns, and 7 Watch Towers; it is reported by credible, and believed by diſcreet Perſons, that there is a Pool adjoining to *Brereton*, the ſeat of the Honourable Family of the *Brereton*s, wherein Bodies of Trees are ſeen to ſwim for certain days together before the death of any Heir of that houſe, and after the Heir is dead, they ſink, and are never ſeen more till the next occaſion; neither muſt we forget the many Fir-trees found buried under ground on the Southſide of *Cheſhire* by the River *Wever*; which the common People imagine to have lain buried there ever ſince *Noah*'s Flood; the Inhabitants cut pieces of ſuch Wood very ſmall, and uſe them inſtead of Candles, which give a good light; the Author adds, *That ſuch wooden Candles have long ſnuffs, and yet* ſaith he (which indeed is a wonder) *in falling down they do no harm, though they light into* Tow, Flax, or the like, yet let not this incourage careleſs Servants, ſince this Country has been ſadly ſenſible of caſualties by Fire, *Nantwich* a fair Market Town therein being twice burnt to the ground in 150 years.

In 1657. *July* 8. In the Pariſh of *Bickly* in this County about 3 in the afternoon was heard a very great noiſe like Thunder afar off, which was much wondred at, becauſe the ſky was clear from Clouds; ſoon after (ſays the Author) a Neighbour comes and tells me, if I would go with him, I ſhould ſee a very ſtrange thing; ſo coming into a Field called *Layfield*, we found a very great bank of Earth, which had tall Oaks growing on it, now quite ſunk under ground, Trees and all; at firſt we durſt not go near it, becauſe the earth for near 20 yards about was much rent, and ſeemed ready to fall in, but ſince that time (ſaith he) my ſelf and ſome others by Ropes have ventured to look down, and ſaw water at the bottom about 30 yards from us, under which is ſunk all the Earth about it for 16 yards round at leaſt, with 3 or 4

tall Oaks, and certain other small Trees, and not a sprig of them to be seen above water; four or five Oaks more were expected to fall every moment, and a great quantity of Land beside, it never ceasing more or less, and when any considerable clod fel, it was much like the report of a Canon; we could discern the ground hollow above the water a great way, but how far, or how deep, is not to be found out by man; the water was salt, like that of the Sea, fr m whence some imagine it came through certain large passages under ground, but it is probable to be no other than that which issues from those salt Springs about *Nantwich*, and other places in this County; may we not also judge that those Trees which are digged up in some places hereabout were buried in the Earth by some such accident as this is?

July 30. 1662 was a very stormy and Tempestuous day in many parts of *Cheshire*, and *Lancashire*; at *Ormskirk* there was such a storm of hail, as brake the Glass-windows, and did much hurt to their Corn; Mr. *Heywood* measured an Hailstone after some of it was wasted, and found it four inches about, others being thought larger; the same day in the afternoon in the Forrest of *Maxfield* in *Cheshire* there arose a great Pillar of smoke, in height like a Steeple, and judg'd 20 yards broad, which making a most hideous noise, went along the ground 6 or 7 miles, levelling all in the way; it threw down Fences and Stonewalls, and carried the Stones a great distance from their places, but happening upon Mooriſh ground not inhabited, it did the less hurt, the terrible noise it made so affrighted the Cattel, that they ran away, and were thereby preserved; it passed over a Cornfield, and laid all as even with the ground as if it had been trodden down with Feet; it went through a Wood, and turned up above an hundred Trees by the Roots; coming into a Field full of Cocks of Hay ready to be carried in, it swept all away, so that scarce an handful of it could afterward be found, only it left a great Tree behind in the middle of the Field, which it had brought from some other place; from the Forrest

of

of *Maxfield* it went up by a Town called *Taxal*, and thence to *Waily* Bridge, where, and no where else, it overthrew an house or two, yet the people that were in them received not much hurt, but the Timber was carried away no body knew whither; from thence it went up the Hills into *Derbyshire*, and so vanished; this account was given by Mr. *Hurst*, Minister of *Taxal*, who had it from an Eye-witness.

Dr. *Walter Needham* an eminent and learned Physician in a late discourse of Anatomy, gives a Relation of a Child that cryed in its Mothers Womb, which is as followeth; A long time (saith he) I could scarce believe that there were such cryings, till I was informed of that which I now set down by a Noble Lady in *Cheshire*; as this Honourable Person sate after meat in the Dining Room with her Husband, their Domestick Chaplain, and divers others, she was sensible of an extraordinary stirring in her Belly, which so lift up her cloths, that it was easily discernable to those that were present (she was then with Child, and in her seventh month) upon a suddain there was a voice heard, but whence it should come they were not able to conjecture, not suspecting any thing of the *Embrio* in her Womb, soon after they perceived the Belly and Garments of the Lady to have a second and notable commotion, and withal heard a cry as if it proceeded from thence; while they were amazed at what had passed, and were discoursing together of this Prodigy, all that before had happened, did a third time so manifestly appear, that (being now become more attentive) they doubted not but that the cry came from her Womb; the Girl that was so talkative in the Womb of her Mother doth yet live, and is likely enough so to continue; I cannot doubt, saith he, of the Truth of so eminent a story, receiving the confirmation of it from so credible Persons.

There is a Proverb in this Country, *Cheshire Chief of Men*, which I hope does not carry a Challenge with it, as ingrossing Manhood to themselves; for then the *Men of Kent* will undertake these *Chief of Men*, and ano-

ther Proverb will croſs this, *That no man is ſo good, but that another may be as good as he*; indeed the *Ceſtrians* have behaved themſelves valiantly in their undertakings, which was well known to K. *Richard* 2. who in dangerous times ſent for 2000 *Cheſhire* Men, all Archers to attend him; which number in time of a ſuſpicious Parliament was doubled by him, all of them being allowed Bread and Beer, and ſix pence a day beſides, which was large wages in thoſe days; pity it was that the valour of theſe *Cheſhire* Men was once waſted againſt themſelves in a terrible Battel betwixt K. *Hen.* 4. and *Henry Piercy* Sirnamed *Hotſpur*, which is not ill deſcribed by Mr. *Drayton* the Poet, alluding to the names of ſeveral conſiderable Families in this County.

There *Dutton*, *Dutton* kills: a *Done* doth kill a *Done*;
A *Booth* a *Booth*, and *Leigh* by *Leigh* is overthrown:
A *Venables* againſt a *Venables* doth ſtand,
And *Troutbeck* fighteth with a *Troutbeck* hand to hand;
There *Molineux* doth make a *Molineux* to die,
And *Egerton* the ſtrength of *Egerton* doth try:
Oh *Cheſhire* wer't thou mad? Of thine own native gore,
So much until this day thou never ſhedſt before.

This County is divided into 7 Hundreds, wherein there are 13 Market Towns, 86 Pariſh Churches, and 38 Chappels of eaſe, and out of it are Elected four Parliament Men, two for the County, and two for the City of *Cheſter*; it is in the Dioceſs of *Cheſter*. *Macleſield* gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Gerrard*.

CORNWALL, ſo called partly from its Form, and partly from the People, for ſhooting it ſelf into the Sea like a Horn, which the *Brittains* called *Kern*, and inhabited by thoſe whom the *Saxons* called *Wallia*, of theſe two compounded words it became *Cornwallia*, it is fabuled that *Corineus* Couſen to King *Brute*, had this County freely given him for his valour in wreſtling with the Giant *Gogmagog*, and breaking his Neck from the cliff of *Dover*; it hath *Devonſhire* on the Weſt, divided from it generally by the River *Tamer*, incompaſſed with the Sea

on

on all other sides, affording plenty of Harbours, so that Forreigners in their passage to or from *Spain*, *Ireland*, the *Levant*, *East* or *West Indies* sometimes touch here, sometimes are driven hither against their Will, but never without the profit of the Inhabitants, according to the common Proverb, *where the Horse lieth down, there some hairs will be found. Cornish and Devonshire* Men are more active in wrestling, and such boisterous exercises than other Counties in *England*, and likewise more brawny, stout, and able of body, there was one *Kiltor*, who lying upon his back in *Lanceston*, *Castlegreen*, threw a stone of some pounds weight over the top of one of the high Towers of that Castle; and one *John Romane* a thick short Fellow, would carry the whole Carkass of an *Ox*; *John Bray* likewise carried at one time for a considerable space almost six Bushels of Wheaten Meal, reckoning 15 Gallons to the Bushel, and the Miller a luberly Fellow of 24 years of Age upon the whole; of whom *Cambden* observes, *That the Western People of most Countries are the tallest and stoutest, and it is certain that the Easternmost People of the world, the* Chineses *are the most effeminate and unwarlike in the world*; it is also observed that Rocky, and Mountainous places breed stout, hardy, warlike, and tall People, as the Highlanders in *Scotland*, and the *Suitzers* and *Grisons*.

Mr. *Carew* in his survey of *Cornwall*, assures us upon his own knowledge, that 90 years of Age is ordinary in every place, and in most Persons accompanied with an able use of the body and their senses; one *Polzew*, saith he lately living, reached to an 130, a Kinsman of his to 112, one *Beauchamp* to 106, and in the Parish where himself dwelt, he professed to have remembred the decease of four within 14 weeks space, whose years added together, made up the sum of 340; the same Gentleman made this Epigram or Epitaph upon one *Brawn*, an *Irish*-man, but a *Cornish*-Beggar.

Here *Brawn* the *quondam* Beggar lies,
Who counted by his Tale

Some sixscore Winters and above,
Such virtue is in Ale;
Ale was his meat, his drink, his cloth,
His Physick too beside;
And could he still have drank his Ale,
Then sure he had not dy'd.

And one *Chamond* who liv'd at *Stratton* in this County was Uncle and great Uncle to at least 300. There was within these hundred years one Mr. *Atwell* Parson of St. *Ives* in *Cornwall*, who likewise practised Physick, but so strange was his method (not to say his humour) that though sometimes he used blood-letting, & administred *Manus Christi*, and the like Cordials, yet for all Diseases he did chiefly prescribe Milk, and very often Milk and Apples by which he performed many strange and desperate Cures, and got great reputation from many Patients of the Neighbouring Countries, but it is doubtful whether Mr. *Atwells* Physick, or the pure air of *Cornwall* did the work. This Country abounds with Pilchards, and also with Copper and Tin, which grow so plentifully in the utmost part of this Promontory, that at low water the veins thereof lie bare; and in the time of *Edw.* 1. and 2. Silver hath been found in this Shire to the great profit of these Princes; nay Tinners do now find little quantities of Gold, and sometimes Silver among the Tinn Oar, which they sell to the Goldsmiths; Diamonds are found in many places, cleaving to those Rocks out of which the Tinn is digged, they are smoothed, squared, and pointed by Nature, their quantity is from a Pease to a Walnut, the tinners many times dig up whole huge Trees of Timber at the bottom of the Mines, which they think were there buried ever since the Flood; they find also Pick-axes of Holm, Box, and Hartshorn, and sometimes certain small tool heads of Brass, and once a brass Coin of the Emperour *Domitian*, an argument that the *Romans* formerly wrought in them; these Mines are discovered by certain Tinstones round and smooth found lying on the ground;

but

but if we believe reports, there is a more easie way, and that is by Dreams, by which it's said, works of great value have been found; as in K. *Edward* 6th time a Gentlewoman (Heiress to one *Tresculiard*) dreamed, a handsome man told her, that in such a Tenement of her Land she should find Tinn enough to inrich her self and her posterity; who telling her Husband, upon Tryal he found a Tinn-work there, which in 4 years was worth to him almost 4000 pounds; it is said likewise that one *Taprel* of St. *Niot*, by a dream of his Daughters was led to such a place, which he farmed of the Lord of the Soil, and found a Tinn work accordingly, which made him a rich man; which Stories if true, make much for the credit of Womens dreams. From the bottom of the Tinn-works if they be of any depth, you may See the Stars at noon-day in clear weather; the labour is so hard, and tedious, that they cannot work above four hours in a day, they sometimes meet with loose Earth, yet otherwhile they light upon such hard Rocks, that a good workman can scarce hew above a foot in a week; sometimes again they meet with great streams of water, and sometimes with stinking damps that distemper their heads for the present, though not dangerously; I hear of no Medicinal Water in this Countrey, but only one, and since he that telleth a miraculous truth, must always carry the Author at his back (saith my Author) I will transcribe the words of B. *Hall* in his *Myst. of Godliness*, speaking of the good Offices of Angels to Gods Servants; *Of this kind* saith he, *was that no less than miraculous cure which at St.* Maderns *in* Cornwall, *was wrought upon a poor Cripple, whereof besides the attestation of many Hundreds of the Neighbours, I took a strict and impartial examination in my last Visitation; this man for 16 years together was fain to walk upon his hands, by reason the sinews of his legs were so contracted, and upon Motions in his dream to wash in that Well, was suddenly so restored to his Limbs, that I saw him able both to walk, and for his own maintenance, I found here was neither Art nor Collusion the thing done, the Invisible Author being God.*

Iun

In this County there are ſome ſtones called *Hurlers*, at a competent diſtance from each other, which are vainly reported to be men transformed into Stones; in St. *Cleers* Pariſh there are upon a plain 6 or 8 Stones, ſuch as are upon *Salisbury* Plain, which like them too, will be miſtaken in the telling: near *Helford* is a Rock lying on the ground, the top whereof is hollow like the long half of an Egg, this they ſay holdeth water, which ebbeth and floweth with the Sea, and *indeed*, ſaith the Author, *when I came hither to ſee this Curioſity, the Tide was half gone, and the Pit or hollowneſs half empty*, There is a rock in this County called *Mainamber*, erected as ſome conceive by *Ambroſius* that Valiant Brittain upon ſome Victory obtained by him againſt the *Romans*, or other Enemies; this is a Maſterpiece of Mathematicks, and Critical Proportions, being a great Stone of ſo exact poſition on the top of a Rock that the puſh of a Finger will ſenſibly move it to and fro, and yet all the ſtrength that men could make, was not thought ſufficient to remove it out of the place; but know Reader (ſaith Dr. *Fuller*) that this wonder is now unwondred, for I am credibly informed that ſome Souldiers of late have utterly deſtroyed it, which ſhews how dangerous it is for Art to ſtand in the way of ignorance, ſurely coveouſneſs could not tempt them to it, though it was the ruine of a fair Monument in *Turky*, where a Tomb was erected near the High-way (according to the faſhion of that Country) on ſome Perſon of Quality, conſiſting of a Pillar, and on the top thereof a Chapiter or great Globe of Stone, whereon was written in the *Turkiſh* language; *The Brains are in the Head*; this ſtood many years undemoliſhed (it being very criminal there to violate the Monuments of the dead) till one of leſs conſcience, but more cunning than others, paſſing by it, reſolved to unriddle the meaning of this Inſcription, and breaking the hollow Globe open, found it full of Gold, and departed the richer, though not the honeſter; certainly if any ſuch temptation invited the Souldiers to this Act they miſſed their mark therein.

At

At *Hall* near *Foy* there is a Faggot all of one piece of wood, naturally grown ſo, it is wrapped about the middle with a band, and parted at ends into four ſticks, one of which is divided into two others. In *Lanhadron* Park there grows an Oak that bears leaves ſpeckled, and white; and ſo doth another called *Painters Oak*; it is certain (ſaith our Author) that divers Ancient Families in *England* are forewarned of their death by Oaks bearing ſtrange leaves. An Earthen Pot was found ſome years ago near *Foy*, gilded and graven with Letters in a great ſtone Cheſt, and full of a black Earth, the Aſhes, it's thought, of ſome Ancient *Roman*. At *Trematon* in *Cornwall* in the Chancel of the Church a Leaden Coffin was digged up, in which being opened, was found the proportion of a very big mans body, but being touched, turned to duſt. It was thought to be the body of Duke *Orgarus*, who, as *Speed* ſaith, married his Daughter to K. *Edgar*, for there was an Inſcription on the Coffin that ſignified it was the body of a Duke whoſe Heireſs was Married to a Prince. Likewiſe an exceeding great Carkaſs of a Man was found by the Tinners digging at a Village near the Lands end called *Trebegean*; there is a ſtory that paſſes of St. *Kaines* Well in this County, that whoever drinks firſt of this water, whether Huſband or Wife, they are ſure to get the Maſtery; a fit Fable for the vulgar to believe. In the Weſt parts of *Cornwall* during the Winter, Swallows are found ſitting in old deep Tinn-works, and holes of the Sea-cliffs. On the Shore of this Shire about 30 or 40 years ago, a huge Maſs of Ambergreece was found by a poor Fiſherman of a very great value.

King *Arthur* Son to *Uter-pendragon*, was born at *Tintagil* Caſtle in this County, and was afterward Monarch of *Great Brittain*; he may fitly be termed the *Britiſh Hercules* in three reſpects. 1. For his Illegitimate Birth, both being Baſtards, begotten on other Mens Wives, and yet their Mothers honeſt Women, both deluded by Art-Magick, (the laſt by *Merlin*) by other men coming to them in the form of their Husbands. 2. In his painful

ful life, one being famous for his twelve labours, and the other for his 12 Victories againſt the *Saxons*, and both of them had been greater, had they been made leſs, and the reports of them reduced within the compaſs of probability. 3. In their violent and painful deaths, our *Arthur* being as lamentable, and more honourable, not cauſed by Feminine Jealouſy, but Maſculine Treachery, being murdered by *Mordred* near the place where he was born.

As though no other place on Brittains *ſpacious Earth,*
Were worthy of his end, but where he had his Birth.

As for his round Table, and his Knights about it, the Tale thereof has never met with much credit amongſt the Judicious. The *Corniſh* men in general have ever been held valiant, and therefore K. *Arthur* made them his Vanguard, as appears by the following Verſes.

Brave Arthur *when he meant a Field to fight,*
Us Corniſh men *did firſt of all invite;*
Only to Corniſh *againſt* Cæſars *Swords,*
He the firſt blow in Battel ſtill affords.

Yet theſe People have ſometimes abuſed their valour to Rebellion, as in the Reign of *Hen.* 7. where upon the account of raiſing a ſubſidy granted by Parliament againſt the *Scots*, they made a commotion, the Ring-leaders being *Thomas Flammock* a Lawyer, and *Michael Joſeph* a Smith, who having aſſembled an Army, went to *Taunton*, where they ſlew the Provoſt *Peryn*, one of the Commiſſioners of the Subſidy, and marching forward, *James Tutchet*, Lord *Audly* joined with them, and took on him to be their Leader, at laſt they came to *Black-Heath* (intending to come to the King at *London*) and there incamped on the top of the Hill; the King ſent the Earls of *Oxford*, *Eſſex*, *Suffolk*, and others to incompaſs the Hill, that ſo none might eſcape, and himſelf incamping in St. *Georges Fields*, he ſent the Lord *Dawbeny* to ſet upon them, who won *Debtford Bridge*

from

from them, though ſtrongly defended, their Arrows being reported to be a full yard in length, and aſſaulting them every way, killed 2000, and took many Priſoners, divers of whom the King pardoned, but none of the Leaders; the L. *Audly* was drawn from *Newgate* to *Tower-Hill* in a Coat of his own Arms drawn upon Paper, reverſed, and all torn, and there beheaded; *Thomas Flammock*, and *Michael Joſeph* were drawn, hang'd and quartered, and their quarters ſet upon ſtakes. It is memorable with what comfort *Joſeph* the *Black-ſmith* cheared up himſelf at his going to Execution, ſaying, *That yet he hoped by this, his name and memory ſhould be everlaſting*; ſo dear even to vulgar ſpirits is perpetuity of name, though joined with Infamy, what is it then to noble Spirits when it is joyned with Glory?

They were likewiſe guilty of another Rebellion in the 2. of K. *Edward 6*, 1549. for injunctions being ſent forth by that pious Prince for removing Images out of Churches, and that the Miniſters ſhould diſſuade the People from praying to Saints, or for the dead, from uſe of Beeds, Aſhes, and Proceſſions, from Maſſes, Dirges, praying in an unknown Tongue, *&c.* when Commiſſioners went abroad to ſee them executed, Mr. *Body* a Commiſſioner as he was pulling down Images in *Cornwall*, was ſuddenly ſtabbed with a knife into the Body by a Popiſh Prieſt; hereupon the People flockt together from ſeveral parts of this Shire, and taking Arms, committed divers outrages, as they did alſo in ſeveral other Counties; theſe Religious Mutineers ſent ſeveral Articles to the King, and among other things required to have the *Latine* Maſs again, and the ſix Articles in K. *Henry* 8. time (called the bloody Articles) revived again; now though the King knew reaſons would little prevail with unreaſonable men, yet he ſent them anſwers in writing, and a general Pardon if they would deſiſt, and lay down their Arms; the anſwer about the 6 Articles is worth rehearſing; *You require*, ſaith the King, *to have the Statute of the 6 Articles received, do you know what you ask? Do you underſtand what ſafety and eaſe you enjoy without them? theſe*

Laws

Laws were indeed made, but as soon repented of, for they were too cruel and bloody to be endured by our People; oh poor Ignorant Subjects, how are you insnared and deceived by subtle Traitors? We out of pity took them away, because they were bloody, and you out of ignorance desire them again, you know full well they made us to be cruel & severe, & gave us cause to draw our Sword very often; they were like a Whetstone to our Sword, and for your sakes only we left off to use them, and since our mercy inclineth us to write our Laws in Milk and Equity, how come you to be so blinded as to desire they should be writ in blood? But assure your selves and be confident, that we make account of nothing under Heaven so much as this, to have our Laws obeyed, and this cause of God which we have undertaken to be throughly maintained, from which we will never remove a hairs breadth, nor give place to any Creature living, much less to any Subject, but therein we will venture our own Royal Person, our Crown, Treasure, Realm, and all our Estate, whereof we assure you of our high honour; and as to the Common Prayer which you are against, it cannot certainly offend any reasonable man that the service of God is changed from an unknown Tongue, since it is only to make him understand what before he knew not, and thereby to give his consent to those Prayers which he hath most need of, and to affect his Conscience therewith. since God requireth the heart only, and that we should offer a reasonable Service to him. He concludes; *We for our parts desire to live no longer than to be a Father to our People, and as God hath made us your Rightful King, so hath he commanded you to be obedient, by whose great Majesty we solemnly protest you shall feel the Power of the same God in our Sword, which how mighty it is, no Subject knoweth, how puissant no private man can judge, and how mortal, no* English *heart can think; therefore imbrace our Mercy whilst it is offered, lest the blood spilt by your means cry for vengeance from the Earth, and be heard in the ears of the Lord of Heaven.* But the Rebels grew still more outragious, coming before the City of *Exeter*, and demanding entrance; which being refused, they endeavour'd to take it by storm, and firing the Gates, and Mining, but all in vain, yet they lay so long before it, that the Citizens within suffered great want of Victuals,

victuals, making bread of the courſeſt bran, and feeding upon Horſefleſh, in which extremity an aged Citizen bringing forth all his Proviſions to the People, told them, *That as he communicated to them his ſtore, ſo he would partake with them in their wants, and that he would feed upon one Arm, and fight with the other before he would conſent to put the City into the hands of the Seditious*; but the L. *Grey*, and the L. *Ruſſel* after many conflicts with the Rebels forced them to raiſe the Siege, and utterly routed them; the Sedition being thus ſurpreſſed, it is memorable what cruel ſport Sir *William Kingſton* the Provoſt Marſhal made, by virtue of his Office upon men in miſery; one *Boyer* Mayor of *Bodmin* in *Cornwall* had been amongſt the Rebels, not willingly, but inforced; to him the Proroſt ſent word he would come and dine with him, for whom the Mayor made great Proviſion; a little before Dinner the Provoſt took the Mayor aſide, and whiſpered him in the ear, *That an Execution muſt be that day done in the Town*, and therefore required to have a pair of Gallows ſet up againſt Dinner was done; the Mayor provided them accordingly, preſently after Dinner the Provoſt taking the Mayor by the hand, intreated him to ſhew him the place where the Gallows was, which when he beheld, he asked the Mayor, if he thought them to be ſtrong enough; *yes*, ſaid the Mayor, *doubtleſs they are*; *well then*, ſaid the Provoſt, *get you up ſpeedily for they are provided for you*: *I hope*, ſaid the Mayor, *you do not mean as you ſpeak*; *In faith*, ſaies the Provoſt, *there is no Remedy, for you have been a buſie Rebel*; and ſo without reſpite or defence he was hanged to death; a moſt uncourteous part for a Gueſt to offer his Hoſt. Near the ſame place dwelt a Miller, that had been very active in that Rebellion; who fearing the approach of the Marſhal, told a ſturdy Fellow his Servant, that he had occaſion to go from home, and if any man ſhould inquire for the Miller, he bid him ſay, that himſelf was the Miller, and had been ſo for 3 years before; ſoon after the Provoſt came, and called for the Miller, when out comes the Servant, and ſaid he was the man, the Provoſt

deman-

demanded how long he had kept the Mill; *These* 3 *years* answered the Servant; the Provost then commanded his men to lay hold of him, and hang him on the next Tree; at this the Fellow cried out, *That he was not the Miller, but the Millers Man*; *Nay Sir*, said the Provost, *I will take you at your word, and if thou beest the Miller, thou art a busie Knave; if thou beest not, thou art a false lying Knave, and however thou canst never do thy Master better service than to hang for him*, and so without more ado he was dispatched.

I will conclude the Remarks of this County with somewhat more Comical. At the Dissolution of Abbeys K. *Hen.* 8. gave away large shares to almost every one that asked: Amongst other instances take this merry story. It happened that two or three Gentlemen, the Kings servants, waited at the door, where the King was to come out with a design to beg a large parcel of Abby Lands; One Mr. *John Champernoun*, another of his servants, seeing them, was very inquisitive to know their suit, but they would not impart it to him; in the mean time out comes the King, they kneeled down, so doth *Champernoun*, (being assured by an implicit Faith that Courtiers beg nothing hurtful to themselves) they present their Petition, the King grants it, they render him humble thanks, so doth Mr. *Champernoun*; afterward he requires his share; they deny it; he appeals to the King, who avows, *that he meant they should have equal shares*; whereupon his Companions were forced to allot him the Priory of St. *German* in *Cornwal* valued at 243 pound a year; so that a dumb Beggar met with a Blind Giver, the one as little knowing what he asked, as the other what he gave. This County is divided into Nine Hundreds, wherein are 22 Market Towns, and 161 Parish Churches: It elects 44 Members to sit in Parliament, and is in the Diocess of *Exeter*.

CUMBERLAND hath *Scotland* on the North, *Northumberland*, *Westmerland* on the East, *Lancashire* on the South, and the *Irish* Sea on the West. We read that King *Edmund*, with the help of *Leoline*, Prince of *Wales*,

Wales, wasted all *Cumberland*, and having put out the Eyes of the 2 Sons of *Dunmail*, King of that Province, granted that Kingdom to *Malcolm*, K. of *Scots*, whereof their eldest Sons became Prefects. King *Edward* the 1st dyed at *Carlile* in this County; for intending to invade *Scotland*, he raised a great Army, which he ordered to attend him at this City; but falling sick, and being sensible it would be his death, he commanded his Son (afterward *Edward* 2.) to be brought into his presence, to whom he left many good Precepts and Admonitions, exhorting him, *To be merciful, just, and courteous, constant and true, both in Word and Deed, that he should be pitiful to those in misery, that he should carry his bones with him about* Scotland *till he had subdued it*; and that he should *send his Heart into the* Holy Land, *with Seven score Knights, and Thirty two thousand Pound of Silver, which he had provided for that purpose*; *lastly, that upon pain of eternal Damnation, the said Money should not be expended upon any other use*: soon after which he died.

In the 17th Year of this Kings Reign the City of *Carlile*, with the Abby, and all the Houses belonging to the *Friers Minors*, were consumed with fire. In the Reign of Q. *Elizabeth* a rich Vein of most pure and native Brass was found at *Keswick* in *Cumberland*, which had lain neglected a long time. In *April* 1651, about 5 a Clock in the Afternoon, there was a general Earthquake in the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Westmerland*, wherewith the People were so affrighted, that many of them forsook their Houses and some Houses were so shaken, that the Chimneys fell down: Presently after the *Scottish* Army came into *England* to assist the Parliament, it rained Blood which covered the Church and Church-Yard of *Bencastle* in this County, At *Salkelds* upon the River *Eden* is a Trophy of Victory, called by the Country People, *Long Meg and her Daughters*; they are 77 stones, each of them 10 Foot high above ground, and one of them is 15 Foot in height. *Skiddaw Hill* riseth up with two mighty high Heads like *Parnassus*, and beholds *Scruffell* hill in *Anandale* within *Scotland*, there is a Rhithme that

Skiddaw,

Skiddaw, *Laurvellin*, and *Caſticand*
Are the higheſt hills in all *England*.

Theſe being two other Hills in this Tract; according as miſts riſe or fall upon theſe Heads, the People thereby prognoſticate of the change of Weather, and therefore they ſing,

If *Skiddaw* have a Cap,
Scruffel knows full well of that.

The Sea hath eaten a great part of the Land away upon the ſhores of theſe Weſtern Shires, and Trees are ſometimes diſcovered, when the Wind blows at low Water, elſe they are covered over with Sands, and the People thereabout ſay that they dig up Trees without boughs out of the moſſy places in this Shire, which they find by the direction of the Dew in Summer, which they obſerve never falls on the ground under which they lie. Some Empirick Chirurgions in *Scotland* take a journey to the *Picts Wall* the beginning of every Summer, to gather vulnerary Plants, which they ſay grow plentifully there, and are very effectual, being ſown and planted by the *Romans* for Chirurgical Uſes. There is a ſmall Burrough called *Solway Frith*, under which, within the very *Frith* or Bay, the Inhabitants report the *Engliſh* and *Scots* fought with their Fleets at full Sea, and alſo with their Horſemen and Footmen at the Ebb. This Province was accounted a Kingdom of it ſelf, and King *Steven* to purchaſe aid from the *Scots*, confirmed it by gift to that Crown, which *Henry* 2. claimed and regained from them, ſince which many bickerings have happened between the two Nations in this Shire, but none ſo fatal to the *Scots*, as the Fight at *Salome Moſs*, where the Nobility diſdaining to ſerve under their General *Oliver Sinclare*, gave over the Battle, and yielded themſelves to the *Engliſh*, which diſhonour ſo deeply wounded the heart of K. *James* the 5. that he died for grief ſo n after. There are many ruines of Caſtles, Walls and Forts in this County, with Altars and Inſcriptions of

their

their Captains and Collonels. This County is not divided into Hundreds as the reſt, but therein are ſeated 9 Market Towns, 58 Pariſh Churches, and divers Chappels of eaſe. It Elects 6 Parliament men; for the County 2, *Carlile* 2, *Cockermouth* 2. and is in the Dioceſs of *Chester* and *Carlile*: The laſt of which gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Howard*.

DERBYSHIRE hath *Yorkſhire* on the North, *Nottinghamſhire* on the Eaſt, *Leiceſterſhire* on the South, *Staffordſhire* and *Cheſhire* on the Weſt the River *Derwent* runs through the middle of it; the beſt Lead in *England* is found in this County; as likewiſe Milſtones, Chriſtal, Alabaſter, and Whetſtone, Pitcoal, and Iron. The moſt remarkable thing in this County is the Peak, wherein there is a Cave called the *Devils Arſe*, which is a great Rock or Caſtle upon an high hill, under which there is a Cave in the ground of a vaſt bigneſs; the name is occaſioned by reaſon it ſeems to have two Buttocks ſticking out like a Mans, bending to the ground, the Arch of the Rock is very high, and through it drops of water fall; having good ſtore of Lights they enter into it, and going between two Rocks near together, loſe the light of day, the paſſage is ſo low, that they are fain to creep on their hands and knees, they then come to a dark River which runs ſlowly; beyond which they cannot paſs; there is another high hill called *Maim Tour*, or *Man Tor*, called ſo (ſaith one) becauſe maimed, or broken at the top, and looks like an old ruined wall, from which the Sand falls continually down, and yet the hill is not in the leaſt diminiſhed, having as it ſeems a ſpring of matter from whence it is recruited.

Eldenhole is a place remarkable two miles diſtant from *Calleton*, a Town in the *High Peak*, the hole is about 30 yards long, and 15 yards broad on the top, deſcending directly down into the Earth, but it is much ſtraiter when it cometh forty yards deep, you may ſee into it above 60 yards, which is as far as the light which cometh in at the mouth will admit; if you throw a ſtone into it, you may hear it ſtrike 10 times on the

ſides

ſides of the Rock in its fall, and then you hear it no more; it is reported that the Earl of *Leiceſter* in *Q. Elizabeths* time hired a poor Countryman to ſuffer himſelf to be let down with Ropes tyed about him, and to hang in the middle while they threw down Stones, that thereby he might know the depth thereof; having a pole in his hand to keep the Stones from hurting him; being let down in this manner above an 100 yards, and the Stones thrown down, he was drawn up again; but whether the fear of the Rope breaking, or the Stones knocking him on the head from above, or the Ghoſts and Spirits which are ſuppoſed to be there, was the occaſion of his diſturbance is uncertain, but it ſeems he fell ſtark mad, and died within 8 days after; and about 60 years ſince Mr. *Henry Cavendiſh*, who had ſpent his days in Travel, having been at *Jeruſalem*, and ſeveral other parts of the World, hearing of this place came to it, and cauſed Engines to be made to let a man down into the hole, and one *George Bradley* was let down accordingly in a Rope of 80 yards, and then another Engine was made to let him go fourſcore yards further, and at the end thereof a third Engine whereby he was let down almoſt 80 yards further; at the top of the Rope was faſtened a Bell, which he was to ring if he could go no further; when he was let down almoſt the third fourſcore yards, he rung the Bell, and being drawn up, he was much affrighted, remained ſpeechleſs for a time, and was ſtruck with lameneſs; after he recovered his ſpeech he declared, that as he deſcended down, there were bones of Deer, Sheep, and other Cattel, and alſo of Men, and that he was affrighted, but how or in what manner he could not tell, he lived ſeveral years, but never was in his perfect ſenſes, nor ſound of his Limbs.

Not far from thence there is a Fountain which ebbs and flows like the Sea, though not the ſame hours, neither is it ſalt; At *Buxton* there is a hot Bath, where out of the Rock, within the compaſs of 8 yards, nine Springs ariſe, eight of them warm, and the ninth very cold; theſe run from under a fair Stone Building, and about

sixty paces off, receive another hot spring from a Well inclosed with four flat Stones, called St. *Anne*, near which a very cold Spring bubleth up; it is found by daily experience that great cures have been done by these waters, as being good for the Stomach and Sinews, and very pleasant to bathe the body in, the effects whereof are thus described by our Author.

Unto St. Anne *the Fountain sacred is,*
With waters hot and cold its Springs do rise,
And in its Sulphur veins there's Medicine lies.
Old Mens numb'd joints new vigour here acquire,
In frozen Nerves this water kindleth Fire;
Hither the Cripples halt some help to find,
Run hence, and leave their Crutches here behind.
The barren hither to be fruitful come,
And without help of Spouse go Mothers home.

Pools Hole is another Cave not far off, so called, say the Inhabitants from a famous Thief of that name, who lying upon Travellers, carried them in hither, and then robbed and murdered them; it is seated at the bottom of a Hill, and the entrance so narrow, that they are forced to stoop much, but farther in it is higher, but very dark; when they go in with lights, the roof seems to shine with sparks of fire, going further over Rocks and Stones which seems like Mountains and Valleys; there is a blind River, which murmurs against the Rocks, passing this over, they creep up another high Rock, where there is a dark Cave, on the ceiling whereof hang stones like Gammons of Bacon, there is also a yellow Stone like a Lyon with a rough main, and another which resembles a grave old Man lying on a Bed; a little from hence is another Cave which is called *Pools* Bed Chamber, all of plain Stone, wherein there is a Rock like a Bed, and a Stone like a Chamber-pot.

Joan Wast a blind Woman in the Town of *Derby*, was buryed in this County, who was rather, saith Dr. *Fuller*, the object of any Mans mercy, than the Subject of his Cruelty; besides she was a silly soul, and indeed

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an *Innocent* though no *Fool*: This poor Woman had a clear apprehenſion of Gods Truth, for the Teſtimony whereof ſhe was condemned and burnt at the ſtake, by the command of *Bains* the bloody *Popiſh* Biſhop, who as he began with Ms. *Joyce* one of the beſt, and this *Joan Waſt* one of the meaneſt birth in this Dioceſs, ſo no doubt, had Queen *Mary* lived, he would have made his cruelty meet in perſons of a middle condition. This Ms. *Joyce* being asked by the Biſhop why ſhe would not be preſent at the Maſs, and receive the Sacraments, ſhe anſwered, *Becauſe ſhe found them not in Gods Word, otherwiſe*, ſaid ſhe, *I would with all my heart reverence, eſteem, and receive them.* The Biſhop replied, *If thou wilt believe no more than is written in the Scriptures thou art in a damnable condition*: At which ſhe was much amazed, telling him his words were ungodly and wicked; being condemned, and brought to the ſtake, ſhe prayed earneſtly three times, and eſpecially that God would aboliſh the Idolatrous Maſs, to which almoſt all the multitude, and amongſt them the Sheriff himſelf, cried *Amen*; then taking a Cup of Beer, ſhe ſaid, *I drink unfeignedly to all thoſe that love the Goſpel of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt, and that wiſh the aboliſhment of Popery*; her Friends pledged her and ſeveral of them did pennance for it afterward; when the fire was put to her, ſhe neither ſtrived nor ſtruggled, but with her hands lift up to Heaven, ſhe quickly gave up the Ghoſt.

Sir *Hugh Willoughby* was born of a worthy and ancient Family at *Riſely* in this County; In the Reign of K. *Edward* 6. he was imployed by the King and the Merchants of *London* to find out the *North-Eaſt paſſage* to the *Eaſt-Indies*, having three Ships provided for that purpoſe with a large Commiſſion, which did not bear date from the Year of our Lord, but from the Year of the World 5515, becauſe in their long Voyage they might have occaſion to preſent it to forreign Princes: They departed from *Deptford May* 10. 1553, and after much foul Weather ſteered North-North-Weſt; but *Aug.* 2. a Tempeſt aroſe, whereby one of the Ships was divided

from

from the reſt, and they never ſaw it again: Sir *Hugh* holding on his Courſe diſcovered a Land, which for ice he could not come near in the Latitude of 72 Degrees; This was then called *Willoughby*'s Land, as well it might, ſince it had neither then nor ſince any Owner or Inhabitant pretending to the propriety thereof; ; It appeareth by a Will found in that Ship, which was the *Admiral* in the Pocket of a Perſon of Quality, that in *January* 1554 Sir *Hugh*, and moſt of his company, were then in health, though all ſoon after frozen to death in a River or Haven, called *Arzina* in *Lapland*: The next Summer ſome other Engliſh Ships coming to the ſame place, found the Ship intire, and all the men frozen to death, with a particular account of all the paſſages of their Voyage. *Lapland* hath ſeveral times ſince been ſurrounded by the *Engliſh*, the Weſt part whereof belongeth to the K. of *Sweden*, and the Eaſt to the *Muſcovite*, they are generally Heathens, as poor in Knowledge as Eſtate, paying their Tribute in Furs, whoſe little houſes are but great holes, wherein thay generally live in the ignorance of Money, Here let me inſert a paſſage to refreſh the Reader after this ſad ſtory; There is a cuſtom in this barbarous Country, (as credible Merchants, who have been Eye-witneſſes, report) that it is death to marry a Maid without her Parents and Friends conſent; therefore if any man have an affection for a Maid, a day is appointed for both of their Friends to meet, and ſee the young couple run a Race; the Maid hath the advantage of ſtarting, and a third part of the Race, ſo that it is impoſſible, except ſhe be willing her ſelf, ſhe ſhould ever be overtaken; if the Maid out-run her Sweet-heart the buſineſs is ended, he muſt never have her, nor make any further motion to her under a great penalty; but if the Virgin have any affection for him, though ſhe at firſt may run hard to try the truth of his Love, yet ſhe will pretend to ſtumble, or make a voluntary halt, before ſhe comes to the end of the Race, ſo that he may overtake her: Thus none are compelled to marry againſt their Wills, which is the cauſe that in this poor Country the

married People are richer in their own content than in other Lands, where ſo many forced matches make feigned Love, and cauſe real unhappineſs.

In *April* 1660, about *Cheſterfield* it rained white Aſhes, which fell in ſuch quantities, that ſeveral Fields look'd white as if Snow had covered them. The ſame Year, *Nov.* 20. the River *Derwent* was at *Derby*, and 5 miles above, and 5 miles below that Town, for 3 or 4 hours totally dried up, ſo that no water during that time came to any of the Mills upon the River; the Boats were all on ground, and the Fiſhes upon the Sand, ſo that the Children took them up in their hands, and in ſeveral places the people went over the Channel dryſhod, which is more remarkable, becauſe *Derwent* is an inland River, and never ebbs or flows, and it is at *Derby* generally an 100 Foot broad, and 7 or 8 Foot deep, and is an extraordinary quick, fierce ſtream. On *Nov.* 11. 1662, there happened a dreadful Whirlwind at *Derby*, whereby that Town was in 4 minutes time damnified above 500 Pounds: It blew the Tiles off the Houſes, threw down ſeveral Barns; Apple-Trees, and other Fruit-Trees were torn up by the Roots; it overturned great Stone-walls, and broke ſome Gates (though faſtened with Iron Bars) into pieces; this ſtrange Wind was accompanied with great flaſhes of Fire, and ſome affirmed that it rained Blood alſo.

The Ale of *Derbyſhire* is very famous, as being counted the beſt and ſtrongeſt in the Nation; it is the old Drink of *England*, though a *French* Poet in King *Henry* the Third's days, merrily jeſted on it in theſe verſes.

Neſcio quid Stygiæ monſtrum conforme paludi, &c.

Of this ſtrange drink ſo like the *Stygian* Lake
(They call it Ale) I know not what to make:
Men drink it thick, and vent it paſſing thin,
Much dregs therefore muſt needs remain within.

This County is divided into ſix Hundreds, wherein are 10 Market Towns, 106 Pariſh Churches, and one

...are elected 4 Parliament Men, for the County 2. ...the Town of *Derby* 2. It is in the Dioceſs of *Ex-*... *Cheſterfield* gives the Title of Earl to *Philip* L. *Stanhop.* ...*Scaresdale* doth to *Nicholas* L. *Leak*, and *Derby* to ...*liam* L. *Stanly.*

DEVONSHIRE hath the narrow Sea on the ...th, the *Severn* on the North, *Cornwal* on the Weſt, ...*Dorſet* and *Somerſetſhires* on the Eaſt; the Natives ...reof are generally very ingenious in any imployment, ...Q. *Elizabeth* uſed to ſay of their Gentry, *They were all ...Courtiers with a becoming Confidence.* There was Silver ...merly found in great plenty in the Pariſh of *Comb-Mar-*... and in the Reign of K. *Edw.* the 1. Miners were ...cht out of *Derbyſhire* for digging thereof, which turn-... to conſiderable profit, as appeareth by a Record in ... Tower of *Lond.* For *Will. Wymondham* accounted for ... pounds weight of Silver in his 22 Year, and in his ... Year he was fined 521 pounds 10 ſhillings weight; ... his 24 Year there was brought to *London* in fined Sil-... in Wedges, 704 Pounds, 3 ſhillings, and 1 penny ...ght; in his 25 Year, though 360 Miners were preſ-... out of the *Peak* and *Wales* to dig it, yet great was ... Years clear profit in Silver and Lead: In the Reign ... *Edw.* 3. it appeareth by the Record of particular Ac-...ntants, that the profits of the Silver were very con-...derable towards the maintenance of that Kings great ...pences in the *French* Wars: Theſe Mines having been ...g neglected, it may be by reaſon of the Civil Wars ...tween *Lancaſter* and *York*, were again re-entred on by ...e *Bulmer*, an Artiſt in the Reign of Q. *Elizabeth*, who ...eſented a Silver Cup made thereof to the Earl of ..., with this Inſcription, alluding to the Mettal.

In *Martins-Comb* I long lay hid
Obſcure, depreſt with groſſeſt Soil,
Debaſed much with mixed Lead,
Till *Bulmer* came, whoſe skill and toil
Reformed me ſo pure and clean,
As richer no where elſe is ſeen,

This County hath many commodious Havens for

Ships, among which *Totnes* was famous for *Brutes* firſt entrance, if *Geffry Monmouth* ſay true, and another Poet who writes thus of *Brute*:

The Gods did guide his Sail and Courſe,
The Winds were at command,
And *Totnes* was the happy ſhore
Where firſt he came to land.

But it is more certain, and withal more lamentable, that the *Danes* firſt entred at *Teignemouth* to invade the Land about 787, unto whom *Brightrick* King of the West Saxons ſent the Steward of his houſe to know their demands, whom they villanouſly ſlew, yet were they forced back to their Ships by the Inhabitants. With more happy ſucceſs hath *Plimouth* ſet forth men of renowned Fame, and prevented the entrance of Invaders, as in the Reign of that eternized Queen, the Mirrour of Princes *Elizabeth* of everlaſting memory; for from this Port Sir *Francis Drake* that famous Knight, and moſt valiant Sea Captain, ſet forth to Sea in 1577, and entred into the Streights of *Magellane*, and in Two Years and Ten Months, through various changes of Fortune, Divine Providence being his Guide, and valour his Conſort, ſailed round about the World, of whom one writes thus:

Drake peragrati novit quem terminus orbis, &c.

Drake whom the incompaſt World ſo fully knew,
Whom both the Poles of Heaven at once did view,
If Men are ſilent, Stars and Sun will care
To Regiſter their Fellow-Traveller.

As he lived moſt part of his Time, ſo he died and was buried at Sea, when his Corps was caſt out of the Ship one made this Tetraſtick on him:

Though Romes *Religion ſhould in time return,*
Drake, *none thy Body will ungrave again.*
There is no fear Poſterity ſhould burn,
Thoſe Bones which free from Fire in Sea remain.

And

and the Lord *Charles Howard*, High Admiral did only from *Plimouth* impeach the entrance of the Invincible *Spaniſh Armado* in 88. but with his ſhot marked them ſo, as ſhewed who had had the beſting of them, as tokens of their own Shame, and immortal Honour. The Commodities of this Shire conſiſt much in Wool and clothing; Corn is likewiſe plenteous, as likewiſe Fiſh and Fowl; the City of *Exeter* is the Shire Town, environed with Ditches and ſtrong Walls a mile and half in Circuit, wherein are 15 faire Churches, and a Caſtle called *Rugemont*, which commands the whole City and Country about it, and hath a pleaſant proſpect into the Sea. The River *Lid* by *Exeter* runs under ground, the ſtream ſinking ſo deep, that it is altogether inviſible, but it ſupplies to the Ear what it denies to the Eye, ſo great is the noiſe thereof. In the Pariſh of *North-Taunton* near an Houſe called *Bath*, there is a Pit, but in the Winter a Pool, not maintained by any Spring, but the fall of rain water, and therefore commonly dry in Summer; of which Pool it hath been obſerved (ſaith Dr. *Fuller*) *that before the death, or change of Prince, or ſome other ſtrange accident of great importance, as Invaſion or Inſurrection, it will though in a hot and dry Summer without any rain overflow its banks, and ſo continue till that for which it prognoſticated be paſt and fulfilled*, and the Reporter who publiſhed his book 1648. reports, *That it overflowed four times in 30 years paſt*; There is another thing in this County called the *Hanging Stone*, being one of the Bound ſtones which parteth *Comb-Martin* from the next Pariſh; it took the name from a Thief, who having ſtolen a Sheep, and tyed it about his neck to carry it on his back, reſted himſelf a while upon this Stone which is about a foot high, till the Sheep ſtrugling, ſlid over the Stone on the other ſide, and ſo ſtrangled the man, which appeareth rather to be a Providence than a cauſe, in the juſt execution of a Malefactor.

We may add to theſe wonders, the *Gubbings* which are *Scythia* within *England*, and they pure Heathens dwell, this place lyeth nigh *Brent Tor*, on the edge of

Dartmoor, it is reported that about 200 years ago, two Strumpets being with Child fled thither to hide themselves, to whom certain debauched Fellows resorted, and that this was their Original; they are a People who live by themselves, exempt from all Authority Ecclesiastical and Civil; they dwell in Cottages like Swine, being rather holes than Houses, having all in common, and multiplyed without Marriage into many Hundreds; their Language is the dross of the dregs of the *Devonshire* Speech, and the more learned a man is, the less they can understand him; during our Civil Wars no Souldiers were quartered among them, for fear of being themselves quartered by them; their Wealth consist of other mens Goods, and they live by stealing the Sheep on the *Moor*, and vain it is for any to search their Houses, being a work beneath the pains of a Sheriff, and above the Power of any Constable, their swiftness is such, that they will outrun many Horses; they are so healthful, that they outlive most men, living in the ignorance of Luxury, the extinguisher of life, they hold together like Burs, and if you offend one, all will revenge his Quarrel.

In the year 959, *Edgar*, one of the Saxon Kings of this Land, hearing of the admirable beauty of *Elfrida* the only Daughter of *Ordgarus*, Duke of *Devonshire*, and Founder of *Tavistock Abby* in that County; he sent his great Favourite Earl *Ethelwold*, who could well judge of beauty, to try the truth thereof; with Commission that if he found her such as Fame reported, he should bring her with him, and he would make her his Queen; the young Earl upon sight of the Lady, was so surprized, that he began to woe her for himself, and had procured her Fathers good will in case he could obtain the Kings consent; hereupon the Earl posted back to the King, relating to him, *That the Lady was fair indeed, but nothing answerable to the report that went of her, yet desired the King that he might marry her, as being her Fathers Heir thereby to raise his Fortune.* The King consented, and the Marriage was solemnized; soon after the fame of her beauty began

to spread more than before, so that the King much
bering he had been abused, resolved to try the truth
mself, and thereupon taking occasion to hunt in the
kes Park, came to his house; whose coming *Ethel-*
ld suspecting, acquainted his Wife with the wrong he
d done both her and the King in disparaging her
auty, and therefore to prevent the Kings displeasure,
treated her by all manner of persuasions he could
ssibly use, to cloth her self in such attire as might least
t her forth; but she resolving to be revenged, and con-
dering that now was the time to make the most of her
auty, and longing to be a Queen, would not be acces-
ry to her own injury, but decked her self in her ri-
est Ornaments, which so improved her beauty, that
e King was struck with astonishment, and admiration
first sight, and was fully resolved to be quit with his
rfidious Favourite, yet dissembling his passion, he
ent to hunting, where taking *Ethelwold* at an advantage
e ran him through with a Javelin, and having thereby
ade fair *Elfrid* a Widow, he took her to be his Wife.
We read that *Ordulphus* Son of *Ordgarus*, Earl of *Devon-*
re, (but whether this or no is uncertain) was a Gi-
antlike Man, and could break open the bars of Gates
ith his hands, and strike 10 foot at once, but of what
redit it is I know not.

Agnes Preist was burnt for the Protestant Faith with-
out the Walls of *Exeter*; her own Husband, and her
Children were her greatest Persecutors, from whom she
fled, because they would force her to be present at
Mass; she was Indicted at the Assizes, and afterward
presented to *James Troublefield*, Bishop of *Exeter*, and by
him condemned for denying the Sacrament of the Al-
tar; after her condemnation she refused to receive any
mony from well affected People, saying, *She was going to*
a City where Money had no Mastery; she was a simple Wo-
man to behold, little of stature, and about 50 years old;
she was burnt in a place called *Sothenhay*, in *November*
1558.

One *Child*, whose Christian name is unknown, was a

Gentleman, the laſt of his Family, being of an ancient extraction at *Plimſtock* in this County, and had great poſſeſſions; it happened that hunting in *Dartmore*, he loſt both his Company and way in a deep Snow: having therefore killed his Horſe, he crept into his hot bowels for warmth, and writ this with his blood,

Whoever finds and brings me to my Tomb,
The Land of Plimſtock *that ſhall be his doom.*

The night after it ſeems he was frozen to death, and being firſt found by the Monks of *Taviſtock*, they with all poſſible haſt provided to inter him in their own Abby; his own Pariſhioners at *Plimſtock* hearing thereof, ſtood at the ford of the River to take the body from them; but they muſt riſe early, yea not ſleep at all, who over-reach Monks in matter of profit; for they caſt a ſlight Bridge over the River, whereby they carried over the Corps, and interred it; in remembrance whereof the Bridge, ſince better built, is called *Guile Bridge* to this day. *Nicholas*, and *Andrew Tremain* were Twins, and younger Sons to *Thomas Tremain* of *Colacomb* in this County, Eſq; ſuch was their likeneſs in all the parts of Face and Body, that they could not be diſtinguiſhed but by their different habits, which they would ſometimes exchange to make ſport, which occaſioned very merry miſtakes; they felt like pain though at a diſtance, & without any notice given, they equally deſired to walk, travel, ſit, ſleep, eat, drink together at the ſame time, as many credible Gentry of the Neighbourhood, by relation from their Father will atteſt; in this they differed, at *Newhaven* in *France*, the one was a Captain of a Troop, the other but a private Soldier; here they were both ſlain 1564. death being pitiful to kill them together to prevent the lingring languiſhing of the Surviver; *John de Beigny* Lord of *Ege-Lifford* in this County, having been a great Traveller and Soldier in his youth, retired home, married, and had 3 Sons in his ſtaid Age; of theſe the youngeſt went to fight againſt the *Saracens* in *Spain*, of whoſe valour his Father to his great content

heard

heard very high Commendations, which made him the more patiently endure his absence, but when death had bereft him of his two elder Sons, he was often heard to say; *Oh that I might but once imbrace my Son, I would be contented to die presently*, His Son soon after returning unexpectedly, the old man instantly expired with an extasy of Joy; thus if Heaven should always take us at our word in all our wishes and random desires, we should be drowned in the deluge of our own passions. This Knight lived in the time of K. *Edward* 3. *Thomas Stuckly* was a younger Brother of an Ancient, wealthy Family near *Ilfe-Comb* in this County, a man of good parts, which himself knew too well; having prodigally mispent his Patrimony, he entered on several projects, the first was peopling of *Florida*, then newly found out in the *West-Indies*; so confident was his ambition, that he blushed not to tell Q. *Elizabeth*, *That he would rather chuse to be Soveraign of a Molehill, than the highest Subject to the greatest Prince in Christendome*; adding withal, *That he was sure he should be a Prince before his death*; *I hope*, said the Queen, *I shall hear from you, when you are setled in your Principality*; *I will write unto you* (quoth *Stuckly*;) *In what Language*, said the Queen; He replyed, *In the stile of Princes, To Our Dear Sister*; But his project in *Florida* being blasted, he resolved treacherously to attempt what he could not Loyally atchieve, and went over into *Ireland*, and from thence into *Italy*, where he got into the intimate favour of Pope *Pius* 5. boasting that with 3000 Souldiers he would beat all the *English* out of *Ireland*; the Pope gave him many Titles in *Ireland*, as Earl of *Wexford*, Marques of *Lemster*, &c. and furnished him with 800 men, paid by the King of *Spain* for this *Irish* expedition; in passing to which, *Stuckly* lands in *Portugal*, just when *Sebastian*, the King thereof, with two *Moorish* Kings, were undertaking a Voyage into *Africa*; *Stuckly* scorning to attend, is perswaded to accompany them; landing in *Africa*, *Stuckly* gave this seasonable and necessary Counsel, *That they should refresh their land Souldiers for two or three days, some of whom were sick and*

weak

weak, by reason of the tempestuous Passage: But this would not be heard, K. *Sebastian* wrs so furious to engage; and so in the Battle of *Alcaser*, their Army was wholly defeated, where *Stuckly* lost his Life.

A fatal Fight wherein one day was slain
Three Kings that were, and one that would be fain.

This Battle was fought in 1578. where *Stuckly* with his 800 Men behaved himself most valiantly, till overpowered with multitude, and so ended this Bubble of Emptiness, and Meteor of Ostentation.

In the troubles between K. *Edw.* 2. and the Barons, one *John Powdras*, a Tanners Son of *Exeter*, gave out, that he himself was the true *Edward*, eldest son of the late King *Edward* 1. and by a false Nurse was changed in his Cradle, and that the now K. *Edward* was a Carters Son, and laid in his place; for which forgery being taken, and hanged, drawn, and quartered, he confessed at his death, *That he had a familiar Spirit in his House, in the likeness of a Cat, that assured him he should be King of* England, *and that he had served this spirit* 3 *years before, to bring his design about.* K. *Richard* 3. called *Crookback*, lay some few days in *Exeter* Castle, and demanding the name of it, they told him *Rugemont*, whereat the Usurper was much startled, having been told by some Wizards, *That he should never prosper after he had met a thing called* Rugemont; but it seems either the Devil or his Oracle spoke low or lisping, being desirous to hide his Folly or Ignorance, or that K. *Richard* having a guilty Conscience, which is soon frighted, mistook him, seeing not *Rugemont* but *Richmond*, the Title of K. *Henry* 7. was the utter Destruction of this Usurper.

In the Reign of K. *Edw.* 4. Sir *John Hawksford*, one of the Lord Chief Justices, living at *Annory* in this County, a man of a great Estate, and without Children, fell into a deep Melancholy, and one day calling to him the Keeper of his Park, charged him with negligence in suffering his Deer to be stoln, and thereupon commanded him, *That if he met with any one in his Night-*

walk,

walk, that would not ſtand or ſpeak, he ſhould not fail to kill him whoſoever he were. Having thus provided, and intending to end his doleful days, he in a dark night conveyed himſelf ſecretly out of his houſe, and walked alone in his Park; the Keeper in his Circuit hearing one ſtirring and coming toward him, asked who was there, but no anſwer being made, he commanded him to ſtand, which when he would not do, the Keeper ſhot him dead, and coming to ſee who it was, found it to be his Maſter. In 1588, *Twiford* was burnt down, occaſioned by burning ſtraw in a Chimney, which fired the Houſe, and ſo the Town about one Afternoon, the fury whereof was ſo great, that in an hour and an half it conſumed 400 Houſes, to the loſs of an Hundred and fifty thouſand pounds in Money, Plate, Merchandiſe, Houſhold ſtuff, and Houſes; Fifty Perſons, Men, Women, and Children, were conſumed therein, yet through Divine Providence, an Almſhouſe, with ſeveral poor people therein, was preſerved, almoſt in the midſt of the flames.

In the Year 1632. *Oct.* 21. being *Sunday* in the Pariſh Church of *Withy Comb*, during Sermon time, there happened a very great darkneſs, which ſtill increaſed, ſo that they could not ſee to read; ſoon after a terrible and fearful Thunder was heard, like the noiſe of many great Guns, accompanied with dreadful Lightning, to the great amazement of the People, the darkneſs ſtill increaſing that they could not ſee each other, when there preſently came ſuch an extraordinary flame of Lightning, as filled the Church with Fire, ſmoak and a loathſome ſmell like Brimſtone; a Ball of fire came in likewiſe at the Window, and paſſed through the Church, which ſo affrighted the Congregation, that moſt of them fell down in their Seats, ſome upon their knees, others on their faces, and ſome one upon another, crying out of burning and ſcalding, and all giving up themſelves for dead: Mr. *George Lyde*, Miniſter of the Pariſh, was in his Pulpit, and though much aſtoniſhed, yet through Divine Mercy, had no harm, but was a ſad ſpectator of the hurt and ſufferings of others, the Lightning ſeizing on his

Wife,

Wife, and burning her Cloaths, and many parts of her Body and another Gentlewoman by her in the same manner, but her Maid and Child sitting at the Pue door had no hurt; another Woman attempting to run out of the Church, had her Cloaths set on fire, and was miserably scorched and burnt, and her Flesh torn off her back, almost to the very bones; another Woman had her flesh so torn, and her Body so terribly burnt, that she died the same Night. One Master *Hill* had his head suddenly struck against the Wall in his seat, with such violence, that he dyed the same night, no other hurt being observed, his Son sitting by him received no hurt; at the same Instance another man had his Head cloven, his Skull rent into 3 pieces, and his Brains thrown upon the ground whole, the Hair of his Head, through the violence of the blow, stuck fast to a Pillar near him; some Seats in the Body of the Church were turned upside down, yet those which sate in them had little or no hurt: One man going out of the Chancel door, his Dog ran before him, who was whirled about toward the door and fell down stark dead, upon which the Master stepped back, and was preserved: The Church it self was much torn and defaced with the Thunder and Lightning, a Beam whereof breaking in the midst, fell down between the Minister and Clark, and hurt neither; the Steeple was much rent, and it was observed where the Church was most rent, there the least hurt was done among the people; there were none hurt with the Timber or Stones, but one Maid, who it was judged was killed by the falling of a Stone, which might easily happen, since Stones were thrown down from the Steeple as fast as if it had been by an 100 Men; A Pinnacle of the Tower being thrown down, beat through into the Church; The Pillar against which the Pulpit stood being newly whited was turned black and sulphury; there were in all 3 persons killed, and 62 hurt, divers of them having their Linnen burnt, though their outward Garments were not so much as singed; The Lightning being past, and the People in a terrible Maze, a Gentleman

man in the Town ſtood up and ſaid, *Neighbours in the name of God ſhall we venture out of the Church?* To whom the Miniſter anſwered, *Let us make an end with Prayer, for it is better to dye here than in another place*; But the People looking about them, and ſeeing the Church ſo terribly rent and torn over their heads, durſt not proceed in the publick Devotions, but went out of the Church. At the ſame time there were ſtrange accidents elſe where; for a bowling Ally near the Church yard was turned into Pits and Heaps, as if plowed. And at *Brixton* near *Plimouth* at that time fell Hailſtones as big as an ordinary Turkey-Egg, ſome of 5, 6, and 7 Ounces weight: And it was diſcourſed, that the like Judgment happened at *Norton* in *Somerſetſhire*; the truth of theſe things was atteſted by the Miniſter, and diverſe Inhabitants preſent.

This County is divided into 33 Hundreds, wherein are 32 Market Towns, and 394 Pariſh Churches: Out of it are elected 26 Parliament Men; it is in the Dioceſs of *Exeter*, and gives the Title of Earl to *William* L. *Cavendiſh*, as *Exeter* doth to *John* L. *Cecil*.

DORSETSHIRE hath *Devonſhire* on the Weſt, *Somerſet* and *Wiltſhire* on the North, *Hantſhire* on the Eaſt, and the narrow Seas on the South: It abounds in Wheat, Cattle, Wool, Kerſies, and all other commodities neceſſary for the Life of Man; *Dorcheſter* is the chief Market Town, which was formerly walled, whereof ſome part yet ſtandeth, eſpecially upon the Weſt and South ſides; the Tract or Trench whereof in the manner of a Quadrant, contains 1700 paces, but was deſtroyed by the *Danes*. Other places are memorable for the Actions happening therein, though nothing now but Ruines, as *Badbury* now a Trench and decayed Caſtle only, though ſometimes the Court of the *Weſt-Saxon* Kings; ſuch alſo is *Cerne*, where *Auſtin* the Monk broke down the Altars and Idols of the *Saxon* God *Hell*, whom they devoutly worſhipped as the preſerver of their Health; *Shaftsbury* likewiſe, wherein one *Aquila*, (either

ther Man or Eagle) is reported to have propheſied of future times; In this City *Edward*, ſon of *Edgar* (who was murdered at *Corf-Caſtle* by his Step-Mother, to make way for her own Son,) was buried.

In the Reign of K. *Edward* 2. the great Earl of *Lancaſter* married a Lady from *Camford* in this County, who was taken out of his houſe by one *Richard Martin* a deformed lame Dwarf, who challenged her for his Wife, alledging he had lain with her before the Earl married her, whereupon the Lady was examined, who voluntarily confeſſed it was all true, and thereupon the ugly Fellow in her right claimed the Two Earldoms of *Lincoln* and *Salisbury*. In the Fouth of this Kings Reign the Church of *Middleton*, with all the Monuments were conſumed with Lightning, the Monks being at Mattens. In the 22d of *Edward* the 3. a Plague was brought from beyond Sea into the Towns and Villages of *England*, on the Seacoſts of *Derſetſhire*, which raged ſo, both there and in other parts of *England*, that ſcarce the Tenth man was left alive in the Kingdom.

In 1506. King *Philip* ſailing out of *Germany* to take poſſeſſion of the Kingdom of *Spain*, was driven by Tempeſt upon the Coaſts of *England*, and landed at *Weymouth* to refreſh himſelf, and was invited by Sir *Tho. Trenchard*, a worthy Knight of that County, to his Houſe, who immediately ſent word to King *Henry* 7. of his Arriva', who, glad to have his Court honoured by ſo great a Prince, ſent the Earl of *Arundel* at preſent to wait upon him till himſelf ſhould follow; the Earl attended him with a gallant Troop of about 300 Horſe, and for more ſtate came to him by Torch-light; upon this Meſſage, though K. *Philip* had many reaſons to haſten his Journy, yet not to diſtaſte K. *Henry*, he came Poſt to *Windſor*, where after great and magnificent Entertainment, K. *Henry* taking an opportunity, when they were both in a private room, laying his Hand civilly upon K. *Philip*'s Arm, ſaid, *Sir, you have been ſaved upon my Coaſt, I hope you will not ſuffer me to wreck upon yours*: The King of *Caſtile* asking him what he meant, *I mean*, ſaith the King, that hair-

hair-brain'd Fellow the Earl of Suffolk, *who being my Subject is protected in your Country, and begins to play the Fool when all others are weary of it.* The King of *Caſtile* anſwered, *I had thought Sir your felicity had been above theſe thoughts; but if it trouble you I will baniſh him.* K. *Henry* anſwered, *That his deſire was to have him delivered him*; with this the King of *Caſtile* a little confuſed, ſaid, *That can I not do with my honour: Well then*, ſaid the King, *the matter is at an end*; at laſt the King of *Caſtile*, who much eſteemed K. *Henry*, compoſing his Countenance, ſaid, *Sir, you ſhall have him, but upon your Honour you ſhall not take his Life: I promiſe it upon my Honour*, ſaid K. *Henry*; and he kept his promiſe, for he was not put to death, during all his Reign; but yet he took ſuch order, that in the Reign of his Son K. *Hen.* 8. he had his Head cut off. This Earl of *Suffolk* had lately gone over to *Flanders* to the Lady *Margaret*, K *Henry*'s ſworn Enemy, which made the King doubt of his Intentions: The Earl was accordingly brought over, and ſent to the Tower, and after K. *Philip* had received the Order of the Garter, and Prince *Henry* that of the Golden Fleece, the King of *Caſtile* departed home.

In the 26. of Q. *Elizabeth* 1558, at a place called *Blackmore*, in the Pariſh of *Armitage*, in this County, a piece of ground containing 3 Acres, removed from its place, and went quite over another Cloſe, with the Trees and Fences thereon, a great way off, ſtopping up an Highway which led to *Cerne*, the ſame Hedges incloſing it as before, and the Trees ſtanding very upright thereon, onely one Oak of almoſt 20 Load fell down; in the place from whence it removed there remained a great deep Pit. In 1613. *Aug.* 7. The Town of *Dorcheſter* was utterly conſumed with Fire, which began in the houſe of a Tallow-Chandler, and deſtroyed the whole Town, ſave a few Houſes near the Church, and all their Wares and Goods, to the value of Two Hundred Thouſand Pounds, yet no man periſhed therein. In *June*, 1653. a black Cloud was ſeen over the Town of *Pool*, and ſoon after diſſolved into a ſhower of Blood, which

fell

fell warm upon mens hands, some green leaves with those drops upon them were sent to *London*, and seen by many. The Forrest of the *White Hart* is in this County, so called, because in the Reign of *Henry* 3. the King came hither to hunt, and having taken other Deer, he spared a most beautiful and goodly white Hart, which afterward *Thomas de Lynd* a Gentleman of this Country, with others in his Company took and killed, for which the King put a mulct or Fine upon him, and the whole County, and the very lands which they held, pay even to this day every year by way of amercement a sum of Mony into the Exchequer, which is called *White Hart Silver*; *My self*, saith Dr. *Fuller*, *have paid a share for the sauce, who never tasted any of the meat, so that it seems Kings Venison is sooner eaten than digested.*

Mr. *Ignatius Jordan* was born at *Lime Regis* in this County; and when he was young, was sent to *Exeter*, to be brought up a Merchant; in this City having passed through the several inferiour Offices, he at last came to be Mayor, and was a Justice of Peace 24 years together; yet his beginning was but very mean, which he was always ready to acknowledg, for when some threatned him with Law-suits, and *that they would not give over while he was worth a groat*, he cheerfully told them, *That he should be then but two pence poorer, than when he came first to* Exeter, *for*, said he, *I brought but six pence with me hither*; He would often say, *He wondred what rich men meant, that they gave so little to the Poor, and yet raked so much together for their Children*; *do you not see*, said he, *what becomes of it?* and would reckon up divers examples of such as heaped up much for their Children, and they in a short time consumed it all; on the other side, he spoke of such as had small beginnings, and afterward became rich, or of a competent Estate, giving a particular instance of himself, *I came*, said he, *but with a groat or six pence in my purse to this City, had I had a shilling in my purse, I had never been Mayor of* Exeter. In his Troubles in the Star Chamber, when one told him, *he was sorry that the Lord Keeper was against him*; He answered, *I have a greater Lord Keeper than*

him,

him, the Lord is my Keeper, I will not be afraid, He was famous for Justice and Charity in his life, and at his death left very large Legacies to the poor, both of that City and County; He died in 1640.

This County is divided into 29 Hundreds, wherein are 19 Market Towns, and 248 Parish Churches. It is in the Dioceſs of *Briſtol*, Elects 20 Parliament Men, and gives the Title of E. to *Charles L. Sackvil*, (who is also E. of *Middleſex*) as *Dorcheſter* doth of Marqueſs to *Henry L. Pierrepoint*; *Shaftsbury* of Earl to *Anthony L. Ashley*, and *Portland* of Earl to *Tho.* L. *Weſton.*

DURHAM. This Biſhoprick hath *Northumberland* on the North, divided by the Rivers *Derwent and Tyne*, and *Yorkſhire* on the South; the *German* Ocean on the Eaſt; *Cumberland* and *Weſtmoreland* on the Weſt; it abounds with Coals, Lead and Iron; near *Darlington* in this County, whoſe waters are warm, there are three Pits wonderful deep, called *Hell Kettles*; theſe are judged to come of an Earthquake which happened in 1179. For on *Chriſtmas day* ſay our Chronicles at *Oxenhal*, which is this place, the ground heaved up aloft like a Tower, and ſo continued all that day, as it were immoveable, till even, and then fell with ſo horrible a noiſe, that it affrighted the Inhabitants thereabout, and the Earth ſwallowing it up, made in the ſame place three deep Pits; it is reported that Biſhop *Tonſtall* put a Gooſe into one of theſe Pits, having firſt given her a mark, and the ſame Gooſe was found in the River *Tees*, which if true, theſe Kettles have paſſages under ground; within the River *Weer* at *Butterby* near *Durham*, in Summer Time there iſſues a ſalt reddiſh water, which the Sun makes white, and growing thick becomes Salt, which the People thereabout always uſe.

In the Reign of *William* the Conqueror, one *Wolſtan* was Biſhop of *Durham*, whom upon *Lanfranks* reporting to be inſufficient for the place, for want of Learning, the King commanded to put off his Pontifical Robes, and to leave his Biſhoprick, when ſuddenly out of Divine Inſpiration, ſaith our Hiſtorian, *Wolſton* anſwered, *A better*

than

then you O King beſtowed theſe Robes upon me, and to him will I reſtore them; and therewithal going to *Edward* the Confeſſors Shrine, who had made him a Biſhop, and putting off his Robes, he ſtruck his Staff upon St. *Edwards* Monument, which ſtuck ſo faſt, ſaith the Author, in the Stone of it, that by no ſtrength it could be drawn forth, till he pluckt it out himſelf, which ſo terrified both *Lanfrank* and the King, that they intreated him to take his Robes again, and keep his Biſhoprick.

When K. *Edward* the 3. was Victorious in *France*, the *Scots* with *David Bruce* their King (by the incitement of the *French* King) invade *England* with an Army of Threeſcore and two thouſand men, and marched as far as *Durham*, ſuppoſing that none but Prieſts and Shepheards were left at home, becauſe ſuch a vaſt number were abroad upon Service; but they found it otherwiſe, for the Lords in the Nnrth, as *Gilbert Umfreville*, the Earl of *Angus*, *Henry Piercy*, *Ralph Nevil*, *William Dayncourt*, with the Archbiſhop of *York*, the Biſhop of *Durham*, and others of the Clergy, gathered ſuch great Forces, and ordered them ſo well, that by the animation of Queen *Philip*, who though big with Child, rode in Perſon through the *Engliſh* Troops, and with wiſe and gracious words incouraged them, that they obtained a very ſignal Victory; for meeting the Scots at *Nevils* Croſs in this Biſhoprick, they utterly defeated their great Army, and took *David* their King Priſoner, with the Earls of *Fife*, *Menteith*, *Murray*, *Sutherland*, *Dowglas*, the Archbiſhop of St. *Andrews* and others, and ſlew fifteen thouſand *Scots*; who yet could not be charged for want of valour, eſpecially the King himſelf, who had two Spears hanging in his body, his leg deſperately wounded with an Arrow, his Sword and other weapons beaten out of his hand; and yet diſdaining to be taken Captive, endeavoured by provoking language to induce the *Engliſh* to ki l him, and therefore when one *John Copland*, Captain of *Roxborough* Caſtle, adviſed him to yield, the King ſtruck him ſo fiercely over the face with his Gauntlet, as beat out two of his Teeth; but ſince he could

could not force a death, he must submit to be a Prisoner, and was conveyed by *Copland*, and eight of his Servants out of the Field; the Queen retired to *Newcastle* to attend the event of the Battle, and understanding that K. *David* was taken, she sent Letters to the Captain to deliver up his Royal Prisoner, which he refusing, she sends over a complaint to K. *Edward*; who ordered him to come to *Callice*, where he made so discreet a defence, that he was sent back, and had 500 pound a year in Land given him in any place which he should chuse near his own dwelling: with order to deliver up his Prisoner to the Queen, which he did accordingly at *York* with such a modest and ingenious Apology, as satisfied both the Queen and the Lords of the Council. King *David* was committed Prisoner to the Tower, and continued so eleven years, and then was set at liberty upon condition to pay one hundred thousand Marks in ten years, as a Ransom.

Cicely Nevil, whose Fathers vast Estate, afforded him a Mansion House for every weak in the year, cannot be here omitted, as being the cleerest instance of humane frail felicity; she was youngest Daughter and Child to *Ralph* Earl of *Westmoreland*, (of which Family, *Raby* in this Bishoprick was the chief Seat) he had twenty one Children in all, but she exceeded her Sisters in honour, being married to *Richard* Duke of *York*; she was blessed with three Sons, each born in a several Kingdom, *Edward* (afterward K. *Edward* 4.) born at *Burdeaux* in *France*; *George* at *Dublin* in *Ireland*, and *Richard* at *Fotheringhay* in *England*; this was her happiness, behold now her Miseries; she saw her Husband killed in Battel, *George* Duke of *Clarence* her second Son cruelly murdered in a Butt of Malmsey; K. *Edward* her eldest Son cut off by his own intemperance in the prime of his years, his two Sons butchered by their Uncle *Croobackt Richard*, who himself not long after was slain in the Battel of *Bosworth*; she saw her own reputation publickly murdered at *Pauls Cross* by the procurement of her youngest Son *Richard*, taxing his eldest Brother for Illegitimate

gitimate, and a Bastard; and yet our Chronicles do not charge her with haughtiness in her good, nor dejection in her ill Estate, an argument of an even and steddy soul in all alterations; indeed she lived to see *Elizabeth* her Grand-child married to K. *Henry* 7. but little comfort acrued to her by that conjunction, the party of the *Yorkists* were so depressed by him; she lived 35 years a Widdow, and dyed in the 10 of *Hen.* 7. 1495. and was buried by her Husband in the Collegiate Church of *Fotheringay* in *Northamptonshire*; which Quire being demolished in King *Henry* 8. time, their bodies lay in the Church-yard without any Monument, till Q. *Elizabeth* coming thither in Progress, gave order that they should be interred in the Church, and two Tombs erected over them: hereupon their bodies wrapt in Lead were removed from their plain Graves, and their Coffins opened; the Dutchess *Cicely* had about her Neck hanging in a Silver Ribbon a Pardon from *Rome*, which penned in a fine *Roman* hand, was as fair and fresh to be read as if it had been written but yesterday; This Lady was a great Benefactress to *Queens Colledge* in *Cambridge*.

In former Ages the Bishops have had the Royalties of Princes over this County, and the Inhabitants have pleaded the Priviledge not to pass over the River of *Tees* or *Tyne* to serve in War, whose charge as they alledged, was to keep and defend the Corps of St. *Cuthbert* their great adored Saint, and therefore they called themselves *The Holy Work Folks*, and the repute of this *Cuthbert* and his supposed defence against the *Scots* was such, that several of our *English* Kings went in Devotion to his Tomb on Pilgrimage, and gave large Possessions to his Church; among others, zealous *Canutus*, the greatest of all, came thither bare-footed, and at *Cuthberts* Tomb both inlarged, and confirmed their Liberties. This County is not divided into Hundreds, but Wakes, which are 4, wherein are 118 Parishes, and is in the Dioceses of *Durham*: It elects four Parliament Men, 2 for the County, and 2 for the City of *Durham*. *Sunderland* gives the Title of E. to *Robert* L. *Spencer*.

ESSEX.

ESSEX hath *Kent* on the South; divided by the River *Thames*, *Suffolk* on the North, severed by the River *Stoure*, *Cambridge*, *Hertfordshire*, and *Middlesex* on the West, the two latter for the most part parted by the River *Ley*, and the *Germane* Ocean on the East; this Shire produceth plenty of Saffron, especially about *Walden*, a fair Market-Town, which Saffron may seem to have coloured with the name thereof; it hath also Oysters called *Walfleet*, the best in esteem, and are thought by *Pliny* to have been served in the *Roman* Kitchins, likewise Cloths, Stuffs, Hops, and is indeed a fair Country affording all things necessary to mans subsistence, only the Air of the Eastern part is not accounted very healthful; Those parts adjoining to the Sea, are commonly called the Hundreds of *Essex*, and are very fruitful in Cattle: However the vulgar Wits of this County much astonish strangers with the stock of poor people in these parts, affirming that they have Five *Hundred* Cows, and Nine *Hundred* Sheep, which are indeed but five Cows and nine Sheep in these *Hundreds*.

The chief City of account is *Colchester*, built by *Coilus* the *Brittish* Prince, 124 Years after Christ, wherein (saith *Monmouth*) the first Christian King, Empress and Emperour in the World were born, that is, his Son *Lucius*, *Helena*, and *Constantine*, of which thus the Poet sings.

From Colchester *there rose a Star,*
The Rays whereof gave glorious Light
Throughout the World in Climates far,
Great Constantine, Rome's *Emperour bright.*

The most famous place for antiquity in this County is *Camolodunum*, now *Maldon*, which was the Royal Seat of *Cunobolin*, King of the *Trinobantes*, as by the Money therein minted appeareth, about the time of our Saviours Birth, which City *Claudius* afterward won from the *Brittains*, and therein placed a Colony of Soldiers: In the East Promontory of this County in the Reign of *Richard*

Richard 2. the Teeth of a Giant were found (if they were not of an Elephant) of a very great ſize, and not far thence in the Reign of Q. *Elizabeth* more bones as monſtrous were digged up. The Monks have recorded that a Pilgrim was ſent by St. *John Baptiſt* to K. *Edward the Confeſſor* with a Ring, upon which acc unt his houſe in this County was called *Have a-ring*; but the Clergy in thoſe times made no Conſcience to invent fictions daily for their own advantage: There were bones digged up at *Neſs* near *Harwich* in this County, which with their bigneſs and length amazed the Beholders. I connot ſee, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, how ſuch can maintain them to be the bones of men, who muſt confeſs that (according to the Proportion of the Doors and Roofs of ancient Building, which we have either ſeen or read of) if they were ſo big and tall, they muſt go into their Houſes ſtooping, not to ſay creeping along; except thoſe who affirm it be as careleſs of their credit as the Traveller was, who affirming he ſaw Bees as big as Dogs, and yet their Hives were of our ordinary ſize, and being demanded what ſhift they made to get in, *Nay*, ſaid he, *what know I, let them look to that.* More probable it is, that theſe were bones of Elephants, ſtore whereof were brought over into *England* by the Emperour *Claudius*. To theſe wonders it will not be amiſs to add the enſuing relation, written by Mr. *Tho. Smith* of *Sewarſtone* near *Waltham Abby*, a diſcreet perſon lately deceaſed; *Toward the latter end of* Q. Elizabeth, ſaith he, *I ſerved Sir* Edward Denny, *who lived in the Abby of* Waltham Croſs *in* Eſſex, *which at that time lay in ruinous heaps; and Sir* Edward *beginning to re-edifie it, one* Tomkins, *his Gardiner, being employed therein, among other things diſcovered a fair Marble Stone, which was the cover of a Tomb of the ſame Stone, this cover being removed, there appeared the Anatomy of a man therein, the Bones only remaining in due order, and none of them out of place, and no other duſt or filth whatſoever remaining in the Tomb; having well obſervedit, I told the Spectators, that if they did but touch any part thereof, it would fall in ſunder, which being tried happened accordingly; for my part I am perſuaded*

ſuaded that as the Fleſh and Entrails of this Anatomy to us became inviſible, ſo would the bones likewiſe have been in ſome longer time. O what is man then which vaniſheth thus away, like the Smoak or a Vapour, and is no more ſeen? Whoſoever thou art that ſhalt read this paſſage, thou mayſt find ſufficient cauſe of humility: It is generally conceived, that this was the body of King *Harold.*

This County hath no Cathedral, and the Churches therein cannot challenge to themſelves any eminent Commendation; but for private houſes *Eſſex* will own no Shire her ſuperiour, whereof Three are moſt remarkable, 1. *Audly end* built by the E. of *Suffolk*, which without compare was one of the beſt Subjects Houſes in the Nation; yet is the Structure better than the ſtanding thereof, as being ſomewhat low on the one ſide. 2. *Newhall*, built by the *Ratcliffs*, Earls of *Suſſex*, which is extream pleaſant for the ſhady approach thereunto, and for the Parks round about it, 3. *Copthal* highly ſeated on an hill in the midſt of a Park, built by the Abbot of *Waltham* enlarged by Sir *Thomas Heneage*, and others; herein is a Gallery as well furniſhed, and more proportionable than any in *England*. In *November* 1639. there happened an *Hurricane*, or Whirl-wind, which entring in at the great Eaſt Window, blew that down and carried ſome part thereof, with the Picture of the L. *Coventry* (ſingled from many more which hung on both ſides untouched) all the length of the Gallery, being about 56 Yards, out of the Weſt Window, which it threw down to the ground; ſome obſerved the like Wind in other places about the ſame time, as ominous and preſaging our civil Diſſenſions.

There is a Proverb in this County, *He may fetch a Flitch of Bacon from* Dunmow: This Proverb dependeth on a cuſtom practiſed in the Priory of *Dunmow*, which was founded by *Juga* a noble Lady, for black Nuns 1111. But it ſeems the property of it was after altered into a Male-Nunnery, the Friars whereof were ſometimes, it appears, very merry; for they ordained, *That if any perſon from any part of* England *would come thither, and humbly*

bly kneel on two stones, yet to be seen, at the Church door before the Convent, and solemnly take the ensuing Oath, he might demand a Gammon or Flitch of Bacon, which should be truly given him.

You shall swear by the custom of our Confession
That you never made any nuptial Transgression
Since you were married Man and Wife,
By houshold Brawls, or contentious Strife,
Or otherwise in Bed, or at Board,
Offended each other in deed or Word,
Or since the Parish Clerk said Amen
Wished your selves unmarried again,
Or in a Twelve Month and a day
Repented not in thought any way,
But continued true, and in desire,
As when you join'd hands in Holy-Quire;
If to these conditions without all fear
Of your own accord you will freely swear,
A Gammon of Bacon you shall receive,
And carry it hence with love and free leave:
For this is our custom at Dunmow *well known,*
Though the sport be ours, the Bacon's your own.

It appeareth in an old book on Record, that *Richard Wright* of *Badesworth* in *Norfolk* in the 23. of *Hen.* 6. when *John Canon* was Prior; and that *Stephen Samuel* of *Little Easton* in *Essex*, the 7th. of *Edward* 4. and *Thomas Lee* of *Coxhall* in *Essex* the 2. of *Hen.* 8. took the aforesaid Oath, demanded their Bacon on the premises, and received it accordingly.

Randolph Peveril of *Hatfield-Peveril* in this County, was in great esteem with K. Edward the *Confessor*, who was very bountiful to him, as having married the Daughter of *Inglerick* his Kinsman, who was of great Nobility among the *English Saxons*; this Lady was of such admirable beauty, that she therewith conquered *William* the *Conqueror*, who desired nothing more than to be a Prisoner in her Arms, to obtain which, he enriched St. *Martins Le Grand* in *London*, first founded by her Father,

and

and her Uncle K. *Edward*; he then preferred her two Brothers, *William Peveril* to be Keeper of *Dover Castle*, and *Pain Peveril* he made Baron of *Bourn* in *Cambridgshire*; having thus preferred her Kindred, he began to sollicite her by the Messengers of the *Devils* Bed-Chamber, that is, subtil insinuating Pimps and Bawds, and sometimes he himself visited her (like *Jupiter*) in a golden shower, by these forceable demonstrations of love, and unavoidable allurements (especially from a King) she was at length brought to his unlawful Bed, unto whom she bore a Son, named *William*, who was Lord of *Nottingham*; but his Mother being afterward touched with remorse of Conscience, to expiate her guilt, was taught by the Doctrine of those times to found a Colledge in the Village of *Harpsfield*, which she consecrated to the honour of God, and St. *Mary Magdalen*, wherein setting apart all worldly affairs, she spent the remainder of her days, and died about the year 1100.

In the 17th of *Henry* 2. there was seen at St. *Osythes* in *Essex*, a Dragon of wonderful bigness, which wherever it moved, burnt the Houses and places about it. In the Reign of *Henry* 3. the King commanded *Hubert de Burg*, Earl of *Kent*, to be apprehended; who having notice thereof, rose at midnight, and fled into a Church in *Essex*; the Officers found him upon his knees before the high Altar, with the Popish Sacrament in one hand, and a Cross in the other, however they seized him, and carried him away Prisoner to the *Tower* of *London*; *Roger Niger*, then Bishop, made great complaint to the King, of this violence, and wrong done to Holy Church, and would not be satisfied till the Earl was carried back to the same Church again, though well guarded there; however this it is thought saved the Earls life, for the Kings anger cooled, and he was soon after reconciled to him. In the year 1510. in the Marshes of *Dengey* Hundred near *South-Minster* in this County there suddenly appeared an infinite number of Mice, which overran those Marshes, tearing up the Grass by the roots, and so poysoned it with their venemous Teeth, that the

Cattle which grazed thereon died; but at length a great number of ſtrange painted Owls came, no Man knew whence, and devoured all the Mice. It is reported, that there happened the like in *Eſſex* in 1648.

There were no leſs than forty four Perſons, who ſuffered Martyrdom for the *Proteſtant Religion* in this County; among whom was *William Hunter*, a young Man of 19 years old, born of Religious Parents, who inſtructed him in the Truth, and ſent him to be an Apprentice in *London*; where refuſing to go to Maſs, and receive the Sacrament, he went home to his Parents at *Burntwood*: and one day going into a Chappel there, he found a Bible, which whilſt he was reading, a Summoner came in, and asked him, whether he could expound the Scripture? he anſwer'd, *He did only read it to his Comfort.* The Sumner replied, *It was never a merry World ſince the Bible came forth in* Engliſh. *Hunter* anſwered, *Say not ſo, for Gods ſake; for it is Gods Book, out of which every one ought to learn how to pleaſe God; and therefore I pray God that we may have the Bleſſed Bible amongſt us.* *Ay*, ſaid the Sumner, *I know your Mind well enough; you are one of thoſe that do not like the Queens Laws; but you and many more muſt turn over a new Leaf, or you will broil for it. Pray God give me Grace*, ſaid *Hunter, that I may believe his Word, and confeſs his Name whatever comes of it.* *Nay*, ſaid the Sumner, *you confeſs the Devils Name, and will all go to him.* The Sumner then fetcht a Prieſt out of a blind Ale-houſe, who finding *Hunter* reading, reviled him for it; and then asked him what he thought of the Bleſſed Sacrament of the Altar, whether there were not really *Chriſt*'s Body and Blood? *Hunter* ſaid, *He found no ſuch thing in Scripture.* *Ah*, quoth the Vicar, *now I find you are an Heretick.* *Hunter* replied, *Would you and I were both tied to a ſtake, to try whether of us would ſtick cloſeſt to our Faith.* The Prieſt left him, and informing againſt him, he was ſeized, and brought before Biſhop *Bonner*, who finding that he ſtood firm to his Principles, cauſed his Officers to ſet him in the Stocks, in his *Gate-houſe*, where he lay two days, and had nothing but a cruſt of brown Bread, and a cup of cold Water

after

After Imprisonment three quarters of a Year, the Bishop condemned him, and sent him to *Burntwood* to be burnt; where his Father and Mother came to him, *beseeching God he might continue constant to the end.* His Mother added, *She was happy in bearing such a Child, who could find in his heart to lose his Life for* Christ's *sake,* At the stake he kneeled down, and read the 51st. Psalm. Then the Sheriff said to him, *Here is a Letter from the Queen, if thou wilt recant, thou shalt live; otherwise thou shalt be burnt. No,* quoth *William, I will never recant*; and so he was fastened to the stake. He then said, *Good People, pray for me while you see me alive.* Adding, *Son of God shine upon me:* and the Sun immediately shone out of a thick Cloud so full in his face, that he was forced to turn his head aside. Fire being kindled, he lift up his Hand to *Heaven,* saying, *Lord, Lord, receive my Spirit.* And so ended his Life in the Flames.

John Lawrence was burnt at *Colchester,* whose Legs being lame with Irons, and his Body weak with cruel usage, he was carried to the Stake in a Chair, and burnt therein. At his Burning many young Children being about the Fire, cried out to him, *Lord strengthen thy Servant, and keep thy Promise*; which was lookt on as a Product of Divine Providence, who *out of the Mouths of Babes and Sucklings, hath ordained Strength. Thomas Hawks,* Gentleman, was first brought into trouble for refusing to baptize his Child after the *Popish* fashion. This Man going to the Stake, promised his Friends to give them some solemn Token of the Clearness and Comfort of his Conscience; in performance whereof, whilst his Body was burning, he raised up himself; and though having the Sense, yet having no fear of the Fire, joyfully clapped his Hands over his Head, to the Admiration of all the Beholders. There was an Idol called the *Rood* of *Dover-Court* in this County, to which Multitude of People went in Pilgrimage: Divers zealous *Protestants* at *Dedham* being much troubled to see the Almighty so dishonoured by wicked Idolatry, went from thence in a frosty Moon-shine Night ten Miles to the place where

the Idol was, where they found the Church Doors open, the *Papiſh* Clergy boaſting the power of this Rood was ſuch, that no man could ſhut the doors of the Church where it ſtood: Theſe Perſons taking the Image from the place where it ſtood, carried it a quarter of a Mile off, and there burnt it to aſhes; for which three of them were by the bloody Papiſts hanged in Chains. In 1605. a great *Porpus* was taken at *Weſtham* in a little Creek alive, a Mile and half within the Land, and within a few days after a Whale came up the *Thames*, whoſe length was ſeen divers times above Water, and judged to exceed the largeſt Ship in the River; but when ſhe taſted the Freſh-Water, and ſcented the Land, ſhe returned into the Sea.

This County contains 20 Hundreds, 21 Market Towns, and 415 Pariſh Churches: It is in the Dioceſs of *London*, and elects 8 Parliament men; for the County 2. *Colcheſter* 2. *Harwich* 2. *Malden* 2. and gives the Title of Earl to *Arthur* L. *Capel*.

GLOCESTERSHIRE hath *Worceſter* and *Warwickſhire* on the North, *Oxford* and *Wiltſhire* on the Eaſt, *Somerſetſhire* on the South, *Herefordſhire* with the River *Wye* on the Weſt; the River *Severn* runs through it, and *Malmsbury*, the old Hiſtorian thus deſcribes it: *The ground of this Shire throughout*, ſaith he, *yieldeth plenty of Corn, and bringeth forth abundance of Fruits, the one onely through the natural goodneſs of the ground, the other by diligent manuring and tillage, inſomuch that it would provoke the moſt lazy Perſon to take pains; Here you may ſee the High-ways and common Lanes full of Apple-trees and Pear-trees, not ingrafted by the induſtry of Mans hand, but growing naturally of their own accord, the ground it ſelf is ſo inclined to bear fruit, and thoſe both in taſte and beauty far exceeding others, and will endure till a new ſupply come; There is not any County in* England *ſo thick ſet with Vineyards as this is, ſo plentiful of increaſe, and ſo pleaſant in taſte, the very Wines made thereof have no ill taſte, and are little inferiour to the* French; *the Houſes are innumerable, the Churches very fair, and the*

Towns

Towns standing very thick, but that which addeth a greater glory to it, is the River Severn, *than which there is not any in the Kingdom exceeds it for breadth of Channel, swiftness of stream, or for Fish better stored: There is in it a daily rage and fury of the Waters, which I know not whether to call a Gulf, or Whirlpool of Waves, raising up Sands from the bottom, winding and driving them upon heaps, and sometimes overflowing its banks, roveth a great way on the bordering grounds, and then returneth again into its usual Channel; unhappy is the Vessel, which it taketh full upon the side, but the Watermen being aware of it, when they see it coming turn their Vessels, and run through the midst of it, and thereby avoid the danger.* Thus far he.

This encounter of the salt, and fresh water (as is supposed) here mentioned, is called in this Country the *Higre*, and by some the *Eagre*, for the keenness and fierceness thereof, which is such, that it is equally terrible with the flashings, and noise, to those that see and hear it, much more to them who feel it; of which there can be no reason rendered, since the *Thames* where we find the same cause, hath no such disturbance. Hear how the Poets describe this Higre.

——*Until they be imbraced*
In Severns Soveraign Arms, with whose tumultuous Waves,
That up in narrower bounds, the Higre *wildly raves,*
And frights the straggling Flocks the Neighbouring shores to flie,
Far as from the Main it comes with hideous cry:
And on the angry front the curled foam doth bring,
The Billows 'gainst the Banks when fiercely it doth fling;
Throws up the slimy Ooze, and makes the scaly brood,
Leap madding to the Land, affrighted from the Flood,
Returns the toyling Barge whose Steersman doth not launch,
And thrusts the furrowing beak into her dreadful paunch.

We read that in the 2. of King *Richard* 3, at that time when the Duke of *Buckingham* intended to pass with his Army over the *Severn* there was so great an inundation of Water that men were drowned in their beds, Houses were overturned, Children were carried about the Fields swimming in their Cradles; and Beasts

drowned even upon the Hills; which Rage of the Waters continued for the space of ten days, and is called to this day in those Parts, *The Great Water*. In the 17. of Q. *Elizabeth*, *Feb.* 24. being a hard frost, after a flood which was not great, there came down the River of *Severn* such a swarm of Flies and Beetles, that they were judged to be above an hundred Quarters; the Mills thereabout were dammed up with them for the space of four days, and then were cleansed by digging them out with Shovels. In 1607. a mighty West-wind, which continued 16 hours, brought the Sea into the *Severn* (after a great Rain, and at a Spring-tyde) with such violence, that the Riever began to over-flow its Banks from as far as the Mount in *Cornwal*, along on both sides up into *Somersetshire* and *Glocestershire*: In some places the Waters rose three foot, in others 5 and 7, and in some Towns and Villages they rose higher than the tops of the Houses; so that notwithstanding whatever course could be taken, there were eighty Persons drowned, besides much Cattle, divers Churches, and several Parishes over-whelmed thereby. It did likewise a great deal of harm in *Wales*, the damages being reckoned above 20 thousand pounds.

In the year 755. *Kenwulf*, King of the *VVest-Saxons*, giving himself up to all manner of Vice and Debauchery, coming to *Merton* in this County, to visit a Wench that he kept, was there slain, and buried at *VVinchester*. About the year 1020. *Godwin* the subtle Earl of *Kent*, cast a covetous eye on the fair Nunnery of *Berkley* in *Glocestershire*, and thus contrived it for himself; He left there a handsom young Man, as seemingly sick, for their Charity to recover. The Abbess was a fair and noble Lady; *Godwin* seeking not her, but hers, gives the young Man charge so long to counterfeit, till he had debauched the Abbess, and as many of the Nuns beside, as he could intice to his Pleasure; and left him withal Rings, Jewels, Girdles, and such toys to give them still when they came to visit him; The young Man willing to undergo such a Task, so play'd his part, that in a short time he got up

most

most of their Bellies; and when he had done, told his Lord how he had sped: The Earl goes instantly to Court, tells the King that such a Nunnery was become a Bawdy-House, procures a Visitation, gets them turned out, and begs the Land for his own use. At another time this *Godwin* had a mind to another rich Mannor in *Sussex*, called *Boscham*, and complemented it out of *Robert* Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, in this manner; Coming to the Arch-Bishop, he said, *Da mihi Basium*, that is, *Give me a buss or kiss*, an usual Favour from such a Prelate: The Arch-Bishop answers, *Do tibi Basium, I give thee a kiss*, and therewith kissed him. Upon which *Godwin* presently goes to *Boscham*, and takes possession thereof; and tho there was neither any real Intention in him that passed it away, nor valuable Consideration to him, but a meer Circumvention; yet such was *Godwins* power, and the Arch-Bishops poorness of Spirit, that he quietly injoyed it. These rich and antient Mannors of *Berkly* and *Boscham*, though distant ten Miles asunder, are both now met in the Right Honourable *George* Earl of *Berkly*, as Heir Apparent thereof, his Ancestors being long since possessed of them.

In the Reign of K. *Edward* 1. the Monastery of *Glocester* was burnt down to the ground. In King *Henry* 8. time, *James Bainham* Son to Sir *Alexander Bainham* of this County, was burnt for professing the Gospel; he was bred in Learning, and had Knowledge of the *Greek* and *Latin* Tongues, of a vertuous Disposition, and Religious Conversation, much addicted to Prayer, and a diligent Reader of the Holy Scriptures. He applied himself to the study of the Law, wherein he was very Merciful to his Clients, ready to give Council to Widdows, Fatherless, and Afflicted, without Money or Reward; at last he was suspected, and complained of to Sir *Thomas More*, then Lord-Chancellor; and being brought to his House at *Chelsey*, Sir *Thomas* laboured with frowns and flatteries to withdraw him from the Truth; which not prevailing, he caused him to be tied to a Tree in his Garden (called by him the *Tree of Truth*) and then most cruelly

ſcourged him to make him renounce his opinion; this not ſucceeding, Sir *Thomas* himſelf ſaw him cruelly racked in the *Tower*, till he was lamed, becauſe he would not accuſe ſome of his acquaintance, nor diſcover where his Books lay; then was his Wife impriſoned, and his Goods confiſcated, yet at laſt he was perſwaded to abjure, and ſolemnly carried a Torch and a Faggot in St. *Pauls* Church; but hereby he rather exchanged than eſcaped fire, feeling ſuch a fire in his own Conſcience that he could not be quiet till he had asked God, and all the world forgiveneſs, which he did 1ſt in the Proteſtant Congregation who met privately in a Warehouſe in *Bow-lane*; the next Lords day he went to St. *Auſtins*, the next Pariſh Church to St. *Pauls*, that the Antidote might be brought as near as he could conveniently to the place of his poyſon, where ſtanding up in a Pew with an *Engliſh* New Teſtament in his hand, he declared openly before all the People with abundance of Tears, *That he had denied God, and prayed all the Congregation to believe him, and to be warned by his fall not to do the like; for*, ſaid he, *if I ſhould not return again to the Truth, this Word of God*, (holding up his New Teſtament) *would damn me both body and ſoul in the day of Judgment*, and therefore he intreated them all, *rather to dye preſently, than to do as he had done, for he would not feel ſuch an hell in his Conſcience again for all the World*; After this he was ſoon apprehended again, and cruelly handled by the Biſhop of *London*, putting him in the Stocks, and whipping him barbarouſly for a fortnight together, to force him again to recant, but all in vain, ſo that he was condemned to be burnt; and being in the midſt of the Flames which had half conſumed his Arms and Legs, he ſpake theſe words; *O ye* Papiſts, *behold you look for Miracles, and here now you may ſee a Miracle, for in this Fire I feel no more pain than if I were in a bed of Down, but it is to me as a bed of Roſes.* There was in this County one *William Dangerfield*, who (with his Wife) was impriſoned for the Proteſtant Faith, and was ſo cruelly uſed by the Biſhop, that his legs were almoſt eaten off with the Irons; after a while the Biſhop

ſent

sent for him, and told him his Wife had recanted, who was as well learned as he, and therefore perswaded him to sign a Recantation which they brought; having signed it, they let him go to his Wife, and shewing his Recantation, her heart was ready to break, crying out, *Alas Husband, thus long we have continued one, and hath Satan now so far prevailed with you, as to cause you to break your Vow which you made to God in Baptism.* This so far prevailed with him, that he repented of his Apostacy, and not long after through the extream cruelty used to them, they both dyed in Prison. In 1575. *Feb.* 16. between 4 and 5 in the afternoon, great Earthquakes happened in *Gloucester*, *Worcester*, *Hereford*, *York*, *Bristow*, and the parts adjacent, which caused the People to run out of their Houses for fear they should have fallen on their heads; in *Tewksbury*, *Bredon*, and other places, the dishes fell off the shelves, and books in mens studies fell down before them; in *Norton* Chappel the People being at Prayers, and feeling the ground move, ran out for fear it should have fallen on their heads; part of *Rithing Castle* fell down, and likewise divers brick Chimnies in several Gentlemens Houses. In the year 1650. *Nov.* 30. being St. *Andrews* day, about Sun-rising, the Sky opened in a dreadful manner in the South-west, over *Standish*, a Town 5 miles from *Gloucester*, and there appeared a terrible fiery Sword shaking with the Hilt upward toward the Heavens, and the point downward to the Earth; the Hilt seemed to be blew, the Sword of a great length moving to and fro, and coming lower toward the Earth, there was a long flame of fire toward the point sparkling, and flaming in a fearful manner to the great astonishment of the Spectators, who were many; at last the Heavens closing, the Sword vanished, and the fire fell to the Earth, and ran upon the ground; *this*, saith Mr. *Clark*, *I had from an Eye-witness.*

Gloucester is the chief City of this County, and lieth stretched out in length over *Severn*. The Cathedral Church is a beautiful building, consisting of a continued window work, but hath the *loudest* praises from the

whiſpering place within, which is thus deſcribed by Sir *Francis Bacon*: *There is a Church at* Gloceſter, ſaith he, (*and as I have heard, the like is in ſome other Places*) *where if you ſpeak againſt a wall ſoftly, another ſhall hear your Voice better a great way off, than near at hand. I ſuppoſe there is ſome Vault or Hollow, or Iſle behind the wall, and ſome paſſage to it toward the further end of that wall againſt which you ſpeak, ſo as the Voice of him that ſpeaketh, ſlideth along the wall, and then entreth at ſome paſſage, and communicateth with the Air of the hollow; for it is ſomewhat preſerved by the plain wall; but that is too weak to give an audible ſound, till it hath communicated with the back Air.*

In this Church lies the unfortunate *Robert* Duke of *Normandy*, eldeſt Son to *William* the Conqueror, in a painted wooden Tomb in the midſt of the Quire, whoſe Eyes were pluckt out in *Cardiff* Caſtle, wherein he was kept Priſoner 26 Years. Here alſo the unhappy King *Edward* 2. lies buried under a Monument of Alabaſter, who in the 20 Year of his Reign, was depoſed by Parliament; who ſitting at *London*, ſent ſeveral Biſhops, Lords, and Gentlemen, in the name of the Body of the State, (if that may be called a Body, which then had no Head there) to *Kenelworth* Caſtle to the King; to whom one of the Commiſſioners repreſented, *That the Commonweal had received ſuch irreconcileable Diſlikes of his Government, the Particulars whereof had been opened in the General Aſſembly at* London, *that they were reſolved never to endure he ſhould be King any longer: That notwithſtanding, theſe diſlikes had not extended themſelves ſo far, as for his ſake to exclude his Iſſue; but that with univerſal Applauſe and Joy, the Commonweal had in Parliament Elected his Eldeſt Son the Lord* Edward *for King: That it would be a very acceptable thing to* God, *if he did willingly give over an Earthly Kingdom for the common good and quiet of his Country, which they ſaid could not otherwiſe be ſecured: That yet his Honour would be never the leſs after his Reſignation, than it was before; only the Commonweal would never ſuffer him to Reign any longer: And finally they preſumed to tell him, That unleſs he did freely of himſelf renounce his Crown and Scepter, the People would neither*

ther endure him, nor any of his Children for their Soveraign but disclaiming all homage and fealty, would elect some other to be their King, who should be of another Blood and Family. The King having heard their Message, fell down as half dead; and being somewhat recovered, we cannot say to himself, but to a Sense of his Misery, brake forth into Sighs and Tears: "And being (saith Sr. *Thomas de la More*) "more ready to sacrifice his Body for *Christ*'s cause, than "once to behold the disinheriting of his Sons, or to be "the occasion of the perpetual disturbance of the King-"dom; as knowing (saith he) that a good Shepheard "should give his Life for his Flock, made answer at last to "this effect, *That he knew that for his many sins he was fallen into this Calamity, and therefore had the less cause to take it grievously; That he was very sorry, that the People of the Kingdom were so exasperated against him, as that they should utterly abhor his having any longer the Rule and Soveraignty over them.* He therefore besought all that were present, *to forgive & spare him being so afflicted. That yet it was greatly to his good pleasure and liking, (seeing it could be no otherwise on his own behalf) that his eldest Son was so gracious in their sight; and therefore he gave them thanks for chusing him to be their King.* This being said, they proceeded to the short Ceremonies of his Resignation, which consisted principally in the surrender of his Diadem, and other Ensigns of Majesty, for the use of his Son the new King.

Edward being thus unkinged, the Ambassadors returned joyfully back to the Parliament at *London* with the resigned Ensigns, and an account of their Imployment: But he now deprived of his Royal Crown and Dignity, remained with his Kinsman *Henry* E. of *Leicester*, wanting nothing but Liberty, being shut up like a Monk; but his cruel Wife Queen *Isabel*, who had been one of the greatest Instruments of his Misfortune, being told by her wicked Counsellor, *Adam Tarleton*, Bishop of *Hereford*, that the Earl was too kind to him, ordered *Thomas Gourney*, and *John Martravers*, to take the King into their Custody, who carried him from *Kenelworth* to *Corff-Castle*, and then to *Bristow*, where they shut him in the Castle,

Caſtle, till upon diſcovery of a deſign laid to get him out, and ſend him beyond Sea, they conveyed him to *Berkly Caſtle*; by the way theſe Villains exerciſed divers Cruelties towards him, not permitting him to ride but by night, that he might not be ſeen of any, they forced him to ride bare headed, and when he would have ſlept, they hindred him, neither would give him ſuch meat as he could eat, but ſuch as he moſt loathed; they contradicted him in whatever he ſaid, perſwading him he was mad, and endeavoured by all manner of ways to break his heart, yea they often gave him Poyſon in his drink, but the ſtrength of his nature overcame it; one of them made a Crown of Hay, and put it on his head, the reſt made a ſcorn and May game of him; they were afraid any of his Friends ſhould meet him, and therefore to prevent his being known, they reſolved to cut off both his hair and beard, and coming by a little Ditch, they commanded him to come off his Horſe and be ſhaven; then ſetting him on a Molehil, a Barber came to ſhave him with a baſon of cold water taken out of the Ditch: telling him, *That muſt ſerve at preſent*, To whom the miſerable King looking ſternly upon him, anſwered, *That whether they would or no, he would have warm water for his beard*, and therewithal to make good his word, he preſently ſhed forth a ſhower of Tears; at length he was brought to *Berkly Caſtle*, where he was courteouſly received by *Thomas Berkly* Lord thereof, who was allowed a 100 ſhillings a day for keeping him cloſe Priſoner; But Q. *Iſabel* being much troubled that her Husband lived, conſults again with the wicked Biſhop of *Hereford*, pretending that ſhe was much troubled with frightful dreams, which preſignified, that if her Husband ſhould be again reſtored to his dignity, he would burn her for a Traitor, or ſend her into perpetual baniſhment; the Biſhop, and ſeveral other great Men, both of the Nobility and Clergy, finding themſelves likewiſe equally guilty, became uneaſy while the King lived, and therefore ſent chiding Letters to the Keepers, pretending they gave the King too much liberty

berty, and kept him too high, and delicately, and withal added this line at the end of the Letter, contrived by the Bishop.

Edwardum *occidere nolite timere bonum est.*

To shed King Edwards *blood*
Refuse to fear, I count it good.

Never was the fallacy of pointings, or ambiguity of Phrase more mischievously used to the destruction of a King, or for the defence of the Contrivers, than in this hainous Parricide, for it was so craftily contrived in a double sense, that both the Keepers might find sufficient warrant, and himself might find sufficient excuse, the Keepers guessing at the meaning took it in the worst sense, and therefore putting the L. *Berkly* out of the Castle, they shut up the King in a close Chamber, where with the stench of dead Carkases laid in the Cellar under him, he was almost poysoned, of which he made complaint to some Carpenters who worked at his Chamber-window; but these wretches perceiving this would not do the work, they rushed one night into his Chamber, and casting as many heavy bolsters upon him as 15 men could carry, they pressed them down hard, and not content with that heated an Iron red hot, and through a Pipe like a Trumpet thrust it up into his body, that no marks of a violent death might be seen; but however they were heard, for when they were thus doubly murdering him, he was heard to roar and cry all the Castle over; *Gourney* and *Martravers* his Murtherers expecting rewards, had the reward of Murtherers, for the Queen and Bishop *Tarlton* disavowing the Command threatned to question them for the Kings death, whereupon they fled beyond Sea, and *Gourney* after three years being taken in *France*, and sent into *England*, was in the way upon the Sea beheaded, *Martravers* flying into *Germany*, had the grace to repent, but lived ever after miserably, thus died this unfortunate Prince in 1327. about half a year after his deposing; never certainly was any King turned out of a Kingdom in such a manner;

many

many Kingdoms have been loſt by the chance of War; but this was loſt before the Dice were caſt; no Blow ſtruck, no Battle fought; done forceably, and yet without force; violently, and yet with conſent; both Parties agreed, yet neither pleaſed: For the King was not pleaſed to leave his Kingdom, and the Queen was not pleaſed to leave him his Life, though he often declared in his Captivity; *That nothing grieved him ſo much, as that the Queen his Wife would never be perſwaded to come and ſee him.* And ſwore very devoutly, *That from the firſt time he ſaw her Face, he could never like of any other Woman.* By which it appears, that neither *Gaveſton*, nor the *Spencers*, (his wicked Favourites) had ſo far debauched him, as to make him falſe to his Bed, or diſloyal to his Queen; but ſhe was hardened againſt him, thinking it not ſafe to leave him a part by which he might afterward recover the whole; which was the chief occaſion of his coming to this miſerable end.

The County of *Gloceſter* is divided into 30 Hundreds wherein are 26 Market Towns, 208 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Gloceſter*; out of it are elected 8 Parliament Men. For the County 2; for the City of *Gloceſter* 2; *Tewkſbury* 2; *Cirenceſter* 2. *Berkly* Caſtle gives the Title of E. to *G. L. Berkly.*

HANTS HIRE hath *Berkſhire* on the North; *Surry and Suſſex* on the Eaſt; the Sea on the South; *Dorſet and Wiltſhire* on the Weſt; from North to South it is 54 miles, and from Eaſt to Weſt 30. It is fruitful in Corn, plenteous in paſture, and for all advantages of the Sea wealthy and happy; Wools, Cloths, and Iron are the general Commodities of this County; *Wincheſter* is a City which flouriſhed in the time of the *Romans* and now indifferently peopled, and frequented by water; it is about a mile and an half in Circuit within the walls, which open at 6 Gates, and is adorned with magnificent Churches, and a Biſhops See. Dr. *Heylin* tells us, That one of the Principal Orders of Knighthood is that of the round Table, inſtituted by *Arthur*, King of the *Brittains*, and one of the worlds 9 worthies: It conſiſted

sisted of 150 Knights whose names are recorded in the History of King *Arthur*, the principal of them were Sir *Lancelot*, Sir *Tristram*, Sir *Lamarock*, Sir *Gawin*, &c. all placed at one round Table to avoid quarrels about Priority and Place; The round Table hanging in the great Hall of *Winchester* is falsly called *Arthurs* round Table, it being not of sufficient Antiquity nor containing but 24 Seats.

In the Year 959. *Edgar* the *Saxon* King hearing the Daughter of a Western Duke exceedingly praised for her Beauty, he was so inflamed therewith, that he presently made a journey into those parts, and coming to *Andover* in this County, he commanded the Virgin to be brought to his Bed; the Mother being tender of her Daughters honour, brought her Maid in the dark to the King, who pleased him as well in his Lascivious dalliance. The morning approaching, this late Maid made haste to rise; but the King being loath to part so soon with his supposed fair Lady, asked her, why she made such haste? She told him, *She had a great deal of work to do, and that her Lady would be very angry if she did not rise, and dispatch it:* But being kept longer than her time, she upon her Knees did beseech the King to free her from her angry Mistress; alledging, *That she who had been imbraced by the King, ought not to serve any other.* The King hereby perceiving the deceit, was very angry; yet since he could not recal what was past, after having severely reproved the deceitful Lady, he turned it into a jest; but the Girl it seems pleased him so well, that he took her for his Concubine, whereby she ruled over them who lately commanded her, and loved her entirely, keeping to her alone till he was married to the fair *Elfreda* beforementioned. This King likewise debauched a Nun, named *Wolfchild*, on whom he begat *Edith*, afterward accounted a Saint. He committed the like Folly with *Ethelfleda*, Duke *Ordmars* Daughter, who for her extraordinary Beauty was called *The White*, on whom he begat his Eldest Son *Edward*; for which, Mr. *Fox* affirmeth, he did seven Years Penance, enjoyned

him

him by St. *Dunſtan.* This *Edward* ſucceeded him in the Kingdom at 12 Years old, the beginning of whoſe Reign was miſerably afflicted with barrenneſs of ground, Famine, Murrain of Cattle, and a fearful Comet appeared, all which were thought to be the ſigns of Divine Diſpleaſure, for the wrong done to the Married Clergy, who were turned out of their Livings and ancient Poſſeſſions, only for having Wives (contrary to the Law of God, and againſt all Juſtice and Reaſon;) whereto the unmarried Prieſts anſwered, *That Chriſt reſpected neither the Perſon nor the place, but had only regard to thoſe that took up the Croſs of Pennance and followed him*; But they good men, little underſtood the incumbrance of marrying, for otherwiſe they would have felt, that the condition of married men, was more truly taking up the Croſs, and enduring Pennance, than their careleſs ſingle Life. The Churchmen thus divided and rent, the Nobles as well as others took part of either ſide, as they were affected, and both parties raiſed great Armies in their own defence; the Fire thus blown from a ſpark to a flame, was like to have grown higher, but by mediation Arms were laid aſide, and the cauſe was referred to a Council aſſembled at *Wincheſter*, where after long debate, when the cauſe was like to go againſt the unmarried Monks, the matter was referred to the determination of a Rood or Image of a Man, that ſtood againſt the Wall, by the perſwaſion of the great Oracle St. *Dunſtan*, who deſired them to pray devoutly, and to give diligent ear for an anſwer; the Idol being as good natured as they were devout, was very eaſily perſwaded to give them this advice, *God forbid it ſhould be ſo, God forbid it ſhould be ſo, you have judged well once, and to change that again is not good*: This was Authority ſufficient to ſuppreſs the Prieſts, who now with their Wives went down the Wind; yet they made another Attempt, for perſwading the People that this was but a trick of the Monks, who placed a man behind the Wall, that through a Trunk uttered theſe words through the mouth of the Rood, they therefore earneſtly deſired,

that

that the cause might be heard once more; this at last was granted, and appointed at *Cleve* in *Wiltshire*, whither the Prelates, and most of the Nobles and States of the Kingdom, besides innumerable Gentlemen and Commons came; the Council being sate, and the Controversie growing hot, whether by the weakness of the Foundation, or the vast weight of the People, or both, the joysts of the Chamber where they sate fell down, and the multitude with it, whereof many were hurt, and some killed; only Archbishop *Dunstan*, then President, escaped, for the Post whereon his Chair was set stood wholly untouched, which the Monks said was not without a miracle, he being their mouth against the married Priests, whose cause fell now with this fall, and the Peoples affections drawn from them, they had liberty now to accompany with their Wives without *Cure*, though not without *Care*: And all this happened by the strange preservation of *Dunstan* upon the Post, which yet is not so strange, since the Monks report, that the main Beam of his House being one time sunk out of its place, and the whole building like to fall and knock him on the Head, he made it return into its former place only by making the sign of the Cross thereon with his Fingers; so extream powerful was he in such wooden miracles; which are not much to be wondred at, since it seems his very harp could do miracles, as when of it self it sung a Hymn very melodiously; yea the Blessed Virgin her self is said to have come to solace him with her songs, and it was ordinary for Angels to sing familiarly with him, and for him to whip Devils that came to him in the Shapes of Dogs, Foxes, and Bears; but his greatest exploit was, when the Devil knowing that he was unmarried, came to tempt him in the shape of a handsome brisk Wench, but the Saint got her by the Nose with a pair of hot burning Pincers, and thereby spoiled a good Face, making her to roar in a dreadful manner; Thus these sottish Monks deluded the People with such ridiculous stories, and thereby rather disgraced than honoured those whom they designed to magnify.

South-

Southampton is a Town populous, rich and beautiful, from which the whole County derives its name; The famous King *Canutus* his flatterers perſwaded him that he was greater than *Alexander*, *Cæſar* or *Cyrus*, and was poſſeſſed with more than humane Power; to convince theſe fawning Courtiers being one time at *Southampton*, he commanded his Chair of State ſhould be ſet on the ſhore when the Sea began to flow, and then ſitting down therein, in the preſence of many of his Attendants he ſpake thus to the Element, *Thou Sea art part of my dominion, and the ground whereon I ſit is mine, neither was there ever any that durſt diſobey my command, or by breaking it eſcaped unpuniſhed, I charge thee therefore that thou preſume not to come upon my Land, nor wet theſe Royal Robes of thy Lord that are about me*, but the Sea giving no heed to his threatnings, but keeping on its uſual courſe of Tide, firſt wet his Skirts, and then his Thighs, whereupon ſuddenly riſing up, he thus ſpake in the hearing of them all; *Let all the worlds Inhabitants know that vain and weak is the power of their Kings, and that none is worthy of the name of King, but he that keeps both Heaven, Earth, and Sea in obedience, and bindeth them in an everlaſting Law of Subjection.* After which time he would never ſuffer the Crown to be ſet upon his head, but preſently crowned therewith the Picture of our Saviour on the Croſs at *Wincheſter*; with ſuch ſtrong deluſions were theſe devout Princes drawn away, by thoſe crafty Prieſts who always made gain of their Godlineſs. This King after he had reigned 19 years in great glory, died at *Shaftsbury*, and was buried in the Church of the old *Monaſtery* at *Wincheſter*, to which Church he gave moſt Rich and Royal Jewels, whereof one is recorded to be a Croſs worth as much as the whole Revenue of *England* amounted to in one year; this Church being new built, his bones with many other *Engliſh Saxon* Kings were taken up, and preſerved in gilt Coffers fixt upon the walls of the Quire in that Cathedral Church.

In the year 1053 King *Edward* the *Confeſſor* diſpoſſeſt his Mother Queen *Emma* of all her Eſtate, becauſe after

ter his Fathers death she Married King *Canutus*, and seemed to favour her Children by him more than the former; he also committed her to Custody in the Abby of *Worwell*; yea he so far hearkned to an aspersion cast upon her of unchast familiarity with *Alwine*, Bishop of *Winchester*, that to clear her self, she was fain to pass the Tryal of *Fire Ordeal*, which was in this manner; nine Plowshares red hot were laid in unequal distance, which she must pass barefooted and blindfold, and if she passed them unhurt, she was judged innocent; this terrible Tryal she passed fairly without the least damage, to the great astonishment of all Beholders, using this Speech to her Leaders. *O Lord when shall I come to the place of my Purgation?* but having her eyes uncovered, and seeing her self clearly escaped, she fell upon her knees, and with Tears gave thanks to her deliverer, whereby she recovered her former honour, and in memory thereof gave 9 Mannors to the Minster of *Winchester* according to the number of the Plow-shares; this King was as unkind to his Wife, as to his Mother, for having Married *Editha*, the beautiful, and indeed vertuous Daughter of Earl *Godwin*, because he had taken displeasure against the Father, he would shew no kindness to the Daughter, he had made her his Wife, but conversed not with her as his Wife, only at board, but not at bed, or if at bed, no otherwise than *David* with *Abishag*, and yet was content to hear her accused of Incontinency, whereof if she were guilty, he could not be Innocent, so that what the vertues were, for which after his death he should be reputed a Saint, doth not easily appear; it seems he was chast, but not without injury to his Wife; Pious, but not without ingratefulness to his Mother; just in his present Government, but not without neglect of Posterity, for through his want of Providence in that point he left the Crown so doubtful a Succession, that soon after his Decease it was Translated out of *English* into *French*, and the Kingdom made servile to another Forreign Nation. In the year 1184. A Priest at *Andover*, praying before the Altar was slain with Thunder; likewise

likewise one *Clark* and his Brother were burnt to death with Lightning; and soon after a shower of blood rained in the *Isle of Wight* two hours together.

In the year 1250. King *Hen.* 3. in whose nature it seemed an inseparable quality, to be violent in every thing he had a mind to have done, and that sometimes without due respect to his Majesty, as appears by what follows, This King having a design to advance his half Brother *Ethelmare* to the Bishoprick of *Winchester*, was not satisfied in sending a strict command to the Monks to chuse him, but goes to *Winchester* in Person, and the Clergy being met, he gets up into the Pulpit, and Preaches a Sermon to them, taking for his Text these words, *Justice and Peace have kissed each other*; from whence he raised this Doctrine, *That whereas the rigor of Judgment and Justice belonged to him and other Kings, who were to Rule the Nations, so quiet, peace, and tranquillity belonged to the Clergy, and this day*, saith he, *I hope they will both kiss each other, for I doubt not but that both for your own good, and my desire, you will chuse my Brother Bishop this day*, with many other words to the same purpose, whereby the Monks perceiving the earnestness of his desire, held it in vain to deny him; and thereupon elected *Ethelmare*; but because he was no Priest, they did it with this reservation, *If the Pope did allow thereof*; but the Pope resolving to make his advantage thereof as well as the King, exacted 500 Marks of Church Revenues for his Confirmation, which made *Matthew Paris* a Monk, to utter this bitter lamentation, *O Pope the chief of Bishops, why dost thou thus suffer the Christian World to be defiled; worthily, worthily, therefore art thou driven out of thine own City, and See; and like a Runagade, and another* Cain, *art inforced to wander up and down; O thou God of just vengeance, when wilt thou draw forth thy Sword, and imbrue it in the blood of such wretched Oppressors?* The Pope it seems was then fled from *Rome*, for fear of the Emperor of *Germany*, and though he would neither reform these grand abuses in himself, nor others, yet *Robert Grosthead*, the stout and learned Bishop of *Lincoln*, resolved to reform the Monks and Fryers;

ers; but they appealing to the Pope, the Bishop went to him, and plainly told him, *That all Offenders escaped punishment, because his heart was so open, and ready to receive Bribes from them;* The Pope dismist him, and sent him back with an angry Countenance, and reproachful words; he was at this time at *Lyons*, where a while after the Council breaking up, Cardinal *Hugo* Preached a Farewel Sermon to the Citizens, and among other benefits which they had reaped by the Popes residence in their City, reckoned up this for a principal one, *That whereas at their coming to Town, there were but three for our Bawdy Houses in* Lyons, *now at their departure they left but one, but indeed that reached from one end of the City to the other*; whereby we may observe that *France* had some part of the Popes Blessings as well as *England*.

But it seems the People had no very good opinion of the proceedings of this King *Henry*, both against the Lords and the Church, and not only Men, but Women undertook to reprehend him for the same; for *Isabel*, Widdow to the Earl of *Arundel*, a young Lady, having received a repulse from the King in a matter which she alledged was hers in Equity, presumed to speak thus to his face; *O my Lord King, why do you turn away from Justice; we cannot now obtain right in your Court, you are placed as a middle Person between God and us, but you neither govern us nor your self, neither are you afraid to vex the Church divers ways at present as well as you have formerly, nor by several oppressions to afflict the Nobles of the Kingdom.* The King being fired at this free discourse, looking on her with a scornful and angry countenance, spake thus to her with a loud voice, *O my Lady Countess, what, have the Lords of* England *given you a Charter, and hired you to be their Advocate and Orator, because they know you have your Tongue at will?* *No my Lord*, said the Countess, *They have made me no Charter, but the Charter which your Father made, and which your self confirmed, swearing to keep the same inviolably, and constantly, and often extorting mony upon promise that the Liberties therein should be faithfully observed, which yet you have not kept, but have broken without regard to Honour or Conscience,*

ence, therefore you are found to be a manifest violater of your Faith and Oath; for where are now the Liberties of England, *so often fairly ingrossed in Writing? so often granted? so often bought and paid for? I therefore though a Woman, and all the Natural Loyal People of the Land, appeal against you to the Tribunal of the dreadful Judge, and Heaven and Earth shall bear us Witness that we are used unjustly, and God the Lord of Revenges right us*: The King, saith the Author, abashed at these words, asked her if she did not look to obtain her suit upon favour, since she was his Kinswoman; she replied, that seeing he had denied that which the Law gave, how could she hope to obtain her suit by favour? *Therefore*, said she, *I do appeal to the presence of Christ against those also of your Counsellors, who bewitch and dull your Judgment, and draw you out of the path of Truth, gaping only after their own advantage.* But the King, saith *M. Paris*, remained uncorrigible, and the Lady lost both her charges, hopes and travel.

In the Year 1257. K. *Henry* 3. kept his *Christmas* at *Winchester*, where new grievances arose; the Merchants of *Gascoign* having their Wines taken from them by the Kings Officers without satisfaction, complain to their Lord the Prince, he to his Father, who having been informed that their clamour was unjust, as relying upon the Prince's favour, he falls into a great rage with the Prince, and breaks out into these words, *See now, my Blood and my own Bowels oppose me*: The Princes Servants likewise relying on their Master, commit many outrages, abusing men at their pleasure, neither was the Prince altogether free, for it is said that he caused the Ears of a young Man to be cut off, and his Eyes to be pluckt out as he travelled by the way, which was the occasion of very great disturbances. In this Kings Reign a Child was born in the Isle of *Wight*, who at 18 Years old was scarce 3 Foot high, and therefore brought to the Queen, who carried him about with her as a Monster in Nature. In King *Edward* 3. time, *Southampton* was fired by the *French*, under the conduct of the King of *Sicily's* Son, whom a Countryman encountred, and knocked him down

down with his Club; the Prince cried out *Rancon, Rancon,* (that is, he would pay him a *Ranſom*) but he neither underſtanding his Language, nor the Law that Arms doth allow, laid on him more ſeverely ſtill, ſaying, *I know thee to be a* Francon, (*or* Frenchman) *and therefore thou ſhalt die,* and thereupon knocked him on Head.

In 1554. the conditions of the Marriage between Q. *Mary,* and K. *Philip* of *Spain* were agreed to in Parliament upon theſe Articles. 1. *That K.* Philip *ſhould admit of no ſtranger in any Office but only Natives.* 2. *That he ſhould alter nothing of the Laws and Cuſtoms of the Kingdom.* 3. *That he ſhould not carry the Queen out of the Realm without her own conſent, nor any of her Children without conſent of the Council.* 4. *That if he outlived the Queen he ſhould challenge no right in the Kingdom, but it ſhould deſcend to the next Heir.* 5. *That he ſhould carry none of the Crown Jewels out of the Kingdom, nor any Ships or Ordinance.* Laſtly, *That neither directly nor indirectly he ſhould entangle* England *in the Wars between* Spain *and* France. It was alſo propoſed in this Parliament, that the Supremacy of the Pope ſhould be reſtored, which was not aſſented to without great difficulty; for the ſix Years Reign of K. *Edward 6.* had ſpread a Plantation of the Proteſtant Religion in the hearts of many. The Marriage being thus agreed, ſeveral Lords and Gentlemen were ſent to fetch over the Prince from *Spain,* who arrived at *Southampton, July* 20. 1554. and was met by the Queen at *Wincheſter,* where they were openly married, the diſparity of Years in Princes being not much regarded, though he were but 27, and ſhe 38 Years old: Then the Emperors Ambaſſadour being preſent, declared that in Conſideration of the Marriage, the Emperour had given to King *Philip* his Son the Kingdoms of *Naples* and *Jeruſalem,* and thereupon Garter King at Arms, openly in the Church in the preſence of the King, Queen, and Nobles, both of *Spain* and *England,* ſolemnly proclaimed the Title and Stile of theſe two Princes as followeth; *Philip* and *Mary,* by the Grace of God, King and Queen of *England, France, Naples, Jeruſalem* and *Ireland*

De-

Defenders of the Faith, Princes of *Spain* and *Sicily*; Archdukes of *Austria*, Dukes of *Millain*, *Burgundy* and *Brabant*; Counts of *Habspurg*, *Flanders* and *Tyrol*.

In 1608. *June* 26. In the Parish of *Christs Church* in *Hampshire*, one *John Hitchel* a Carpenter, lying in bed with his Wife, and a young Child by them, was himself and the Child both burnt to death with a sudden Lightning, no fire appearing outwardly upon him, and yet lay burning for the space almost of three days, till he was quite consumed to ashes. In 1619. there was one *Bernard Calvert* of *Andover* in this County, that rid from St. *Georges* Church in *Southwark* to *Dover*, and from thence passed by Barge to *Calice* in *France*, and from thence returned back to St. *Georges* Church the same day, setting out about three a clock in the morning, and returning about 8 a clock at night fresh and lusty; I was at *London* the same time, saith Mr. *Clark*, and saw the man.

Portsmouth is a very convenient Port; The Isle of *Wight* belongs to this Shire, the whole County is divided into 39 Hundreds, wherein are 253 Parishes, and is in the Diocess of *Winchester*. Out of it are elected 26 Parliament Men; *Southampton* gives the Title of Duke to *Charles Fitz-Roy*, eldest Son to the Dutchess of *Cleveland*; *Wincheſter* the Title of Marquess to *Charles* L. *Powlet*; *Portsmouth*, that of Dutchess to *Loviſe de Queronalle*, a *French* Lady, and *Newport* in the Isle of *Wight*, that of Earl to *Henry* L. *Blount*.

HARTFORDSHIRE so called from *Hartford*, the chief Town therein, as *Hartford* is termed from the *Ford of Harts*, *a Hart Couchant in the Waters*, being the Arms thereof; It hath *Essex* on the East, *Middlesex* on the South, *Buckinghamshire* on the West, *Bedford* and *Cambridgeshire* on the North; It is a rich County in Corn, Fields, Pastures, Meadows, Woods, Groves, and clear Rivers, and is indeed the Garden of *England* for Delight, and its usually said, *That such as buy a House in* Hartfordshire, *pay two years purchase for the Air thereof*; no County in all *England* can shew so many good Towns in

so

to little compaſs, their Teams of Horſes are ſt-times deſervedly advanced from the Cart to the Coach, being kept in excellent equipage, much alike in colour and ſtature, fat and fair, ſuch is their care in dreſſing, and well feeding them; and to make an innocent digreſſion, I could name the place and perſon, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, who brought his Servant before a Juſtice of Peace, for ſtealing his Oats and Barley; the Man brought his five Horſes tailed together along with him, alledging for himſelf, *That if he were the Thief, theſe were the Receivers*, and ſo eſcaped.

The moſt famous place in this County for Antiquity is *Verolamium*, now utterly ruined, and ſubverted, and the footſteps thereof hardly to be ſeen, though in very great account by the *Romans*, and one of their *Free Cities*; It was plundered by *Boadicia*, that ever eternized Queen of the *Icenians*, when Seventy Thouſand of the *Romans*, and their Confederates periſhed by her Revenging Sword; The magnificence thereof for ſtately Architecture, and Grandeur, was diſcovered by the large and arched Vaults found in the days of King *Edgar*, which were filled up by *Eldred*, and *Edmer*, Abbots of St. *Albans*, becauſe they were the Receptacles, and lurking holes of Whores and Thieves; hear what our famous *Spencer* ſaies of this once renowned City of *Verulam*.

I was that City which the Garland wore
Of Brittains *pride delivered unto me,*
By Roman *Victnrs; this I was of yore;*
Though nought at all but ruines now I be,
And lie in mine own Aſhes as you ſee,
Verlam *I was, what boote it that I was,*
Since now I am but weeds and waſtful graſs?

And another *Engliſh* Poet writes thus in the name of *Watling*, one of the 4 Imperial Highways.

Thou ſaw'ſt when Verlam *once her head aloft did rear,*
Which in her Cinders now lies ſadly buried here,

With Alabaster, Tuch, and Porphyry adorn'd,
When well near in her pride great Troynovant *she scorn'd.*

A nameless Author hath writ thus upon this forgotten City.

Stay thy foot that passest by,
And a wonder here descry;
Churches that interr'd the dead,
Here themselves are buried.
Houses where men slept and wak't,
Here in Ashes under-rak't.
And (to the Poet to allude)
Here is Corn where once Troy *stood;*
Or if you the Truth would have,
Here's a City in a Grave.
A wonder Reader, think it then,
That Cities thus should die like men:
And yet a wonder think it none,
For many Cities thus are gone.

Out of the ruines of this City rose the fair Town of St. *Albans*, remarkable for bringing forth *Alban* the Martyr; for about the year of Christ 180. King *Lucius* reigned in *Britain*, who hearing of the Miracles and Wonders done by the Christians in divers places, sent Letters to *Eleutherius*, Bishop of *Rome*, desiring to receive the Christian Faith; the good Bishop being glad of this Request, sent him two Preachers, *Faganus* and *Damianus*, by whose faithful endeavours it pleased God, the King and many of his People were Converted, and Baptized, the Temples of Idols and other Monuments of Gentilism were subverted; thus the true Religion encreased, and Superstition and Idolatry decreased, many Bishops being ordained, and set over the People, and all things setled in good order; after which this religious King sent again to *Eleutherius* for the *Roman* Laws, according to which he desired to govern his People; to which request *Eleutherius* returned this answer, *That for the* Roman *and* Imperial *Laws, they might have their defects, but the Law of God could not*; and thereupon advised

sed him to study the Scriptures, and out of them by the Council of his Realm to enact Laws for the Government of his Kingdom; *For*, saith he, *You are Gods Vicar in your Kingdom, and therefore it behoves you to unite your People, to call them to the Faith and Service of Jesus Christ, to cherish and maintain them, to rule and govern them, and to defend them from all such as would do them wrong*, &c. The Christian Faith thus received by the *Britains*, flourished here 216 years, till the coming of the *Saxons*; But the *Romans* continuing Heathens, raised much trouble against the Professors thereof, especially after the death of *Lucius*, who dying without issue, the Barons and Nobles disagreeing about a Successor, the *Romans* stepped in, and took the Crown into their hands, whereupon great ruine and misery ensued to the Kingdom; for sometimes the Idolatrous *Romans* Reigned, and sometimes the Christian *Britains*, according to the fortune of the War; The first remarkable Persecution which we hear of, was under *Diocletian*, and *Maximin*, when the Heathens raged so extreamly, that in *Britanny*, and some other Places, there are reckoned Seventeen Thousand Martyrs who suffered for the name of Christ; In this Persecution a famous Preacher called *Amphibolus* being searcht for to be Imprisoned, he to escape the fury of his Persecutors, hid himself in the House of *Alban* aforementioned, who was a Citizen of *Verulam*, now St. *Albans*; this *Alban* was at that time a Heathen, but observing *Amphibolus* to continue day and night in watching and Prayer, he began to be convinced, and to hearken to the Divine Instructions and Exhortations of this good man, and forsaking Idolatry, he became a very sincere Christian; The Enemy having intelligence that this Minister was in his house, Souldiers were ordered to search for him, which *Alban* having notice of, he apparelled himself in the clothes of *Amphibolus*, and offered himself to the Souldiers, who bound him, and carried him before the Judge, who was at that time sacrificing to his Idols; The Judge perceiving the business, said, *Since now hadst rather convey away the Rebel and Traytor to our*

Gods, than deliver him up to undergo due punishment for his blaspheming our Deities, look therefore what Torments he should have suffered if he had been taken, the same shalt thou endure if thou refuse to practise the Rights of our Religion; *Alban* was regardless of these Threats, and being replenished with Divine Fortitude, boldly told the Judge to his face, *That he would not obey his Commandment*, Then said the Judge, *Of what House and Stock art thou? Alban* answered, *It is no matter of what stock I am, but if thou desirest to know my Religion, be it known unto thee that I am a Christian, and that I imploy my self in the exercise of their Holy Religion*; The Judge then demanded his name; *my Parents*, said he, *named me* Alban, *And I Honour and Worship the True living God who made all things of nothing*. The Judge being inraged hereat, said, *If thou desirest to prolong thy life, come and Sacrifice to our Gods; Alban* answered, *The Sacrifice you offer to the Devil profits you nothing, but rather purchaseth for you eternal pains in Hell fire*; The Judge was still more incensed hereat, and commanded the Tormentors to beat him, thinking stripes might prevail more than words; yet *Alban* continued not only patient, but joyful in the midst of all his Torments, the Judge perceiving that neither words nor blows would remove him from his Constancy, commanded him to be beheaded; The Executioner observing his fervent Faith and Prayers, fell down at his Feet, throwing away the Sword, desiring rather to die for him or with him, than to do Execution upon him, and suffered accordingly, whereby he was made a Martyr for that Faith, of which he was before a Persecutor? The other Officers were astonished and trembled to behold this strange Providence, but at last one of them took up the Sword, whenewith he cut off the Martyr *Albans* head.

In this Town of St. *Albans* K. *Offa* built a most stately Monastery, which we read was upon this occasion; In the Year 793 *Offa* the 11th. King of the *Mercians* took to wife one *Quenrid*, of whom it is recorded, that her name was *Drida*, and that she was Kinswoman to the *French* King *Charles the great*, and was for some Offence

fence baniſhed his Realm, being put into a boat without Sail or Tackle, and arriving upon the Coaſts of *England* was relieved by *Offa*, who was then a young Nobleman, and changed her name to *Quenrid*, of whom he became ſo much in love, that contrary to the Will of his Parents he married her; ſhe being of a proud, cruel, and ambitious Nature, as appears by the ſequel; For *Ethelbert* King of the Eaſt Angles, a wiſe and religious Prince, coming to the Court of King *Offa*, being perſwaded by his Nobles to deſire his Daughter in Marriage, was accompanied with a great Train ſuitable to his Quality; but Queen *Quenrid*, envious of his Grandeur perſwaded her Husband, that he came thither upon ſome treacherous deſign, and therefore he with ſome of his Council, contrived his deſtruction, which ſome ſay was by cauſing him to fall into a deep Pit, digged to that purpoſe under his Chair of State, and that then being alone, one *Gimbert* took and bound him, and then ſtruck off his Head, which he preſented to the King and Queen: Thus was this Innocent Prince uniuſtly murdered, but not without divine Vengeance following the Actors; for the Queen, Author of this Villany, died in three months after, and was ſo tormented in her ſickneſs, that ſhe bit and tore her Tongue in pieces, which had been the Inſtrument of this Barbarity, and *Offa* at length being ſatisfied of the Kings Innocence, and the heinouſneſs of the Fact, gave the 10th. part of his Goods to the Church, and according to the Devotion of that Age, built the Abby of St. *Albans* and other Monaſteries, and went afterward to do Pennance at *Rome*, where he gave to the Church of St. *Peter* a Penny from every Houſe in his Dominions, which were commonly called *Romeſhot*, or *Peter-Pence*, and at laſt was transformed from a King to a Monk: Thus the Almighty puniſhed not only him and his Wife, but the whole Land ſuffered for this horrid Murder, in being made the Popes Vaſſals, for the Clergy ſeldom parting with any thing they get, the poor *Engliſh* were forced to pay this unjuſt Tax for many Hundred Years

after: Nay further, the King and his Son also died within a year after this cruel Murder, whereby that Kingdom was translated from the *Mercians* to the *West-Saxons*.

In the Reign of K. *Henry* 3. the Abbot of St. *Albans* ordered his Servant to fetch him a mans Wife in the Town, with whom he pretended earnest business; the Servant accordingly brought her to his Masters Chamber, and then withdrawing, the Abbot told her, that her Cloaths were but very mean, but if she would be ruled by him, she should wear as good Cloaths as any Woman in the Parish, and therewith began to be very brisk upon her; and finding perswasions would not prevail, endeavoured by force to debauch her, but all in vain, whereupon he kept her several days a Prisoner in his Chamber, which her Husband having notice of, fetches her from him, and tells his Neighbours he will sue the Abbot for imprisoning his Wife; which he hearing of, prosecuted the poor man in the Ecclesiastical Court for defamation, and thereby frighted him from any further proceedings. Sir *Thomas Moore* (though a virulent Papist) reports a story of the like Nature, That a poor man found a Priest over-familiar with his Wife, and because he told it abroad, and had no Witnesses to prove it, the Priest sued him in the Bishops Court, and at length the Poor man under pain of being cursed and excommunicated, was enjoyned to stand up in the Church the next *Sunday*, and say, *Mouth thou liest*; accordingly having repeated what he had reported of the Priest, he put his hand to his Mouth, and said, *Mouth thou liest*; and then laying his hands on his Eyes, he said, *But Eyes, by the Mass, ye lie not a whit.* In K. *Henry* the 7. time an Act was made to punish the incontinency of Priests, and *Francis Petrarch* an Archdeacon thus Anatomizes the *Roman* Clergy, which discovers the extream Chastity of the Popish Batchelors.

Here Venus *with her wanton toys*
Is honoured with base Bawds and Boys,

Whore-

Whoredom, Adultery and Inceſt
Are honoured here among the beſt,
And counted but for ſports and plays
Even with the Prelates of theſe days.
The Wife is raviſht from her Spouſe,
And to the Sons of th' Church ſhe bows.
The poor good man muſt leave the Town,
Such Ordinances are ſet down,
And when her Belly riſeth high
By Clergy-Men who with her lie,
The Husband muſt not dare complain,
But takes his Wife with Child again.

In the Reign of K. *Hen.* 6. 1454. the Duke of *York* raiſed a great Army, of which the King having notice, got conſiderable forces together, and marched to St. *Albans*; to whom the Duke and his Adherents came; deſiring the King to deliver ſuch Perſons whom they would name, that they might be deſervedly puniſhed: To whom the King taking Courage returns this reſolute Anſwer, *That the Duke and his Accomplices were Traitors, and that rather than he would deliver up any Lord then attending him, he himſelf would that day live and die in their quarrel and defence*: Whereupon the Duke and his Party went away diſſatisfied, and the *Yorkiſts* fell immediately upon the Kings Party in St. *Albans*: and the Earl of *Warwick* breaking through a Garden, a ſharp Fight is immediately begun, which ended with very great loſs on the Kings ſide; the Dukes of *Somerſet*, *Buckingham* and his Son, the Earls of *Northumberland*, *Stafford*, and the L. *Clifford* being ſlain, and buried at St. *Albans*, with above 5000 common Souldiers; and the King himſelf unguarded is left in a poor thatcht houſe, whither he retired from the danger of the Arrows: The Duke of *York* having notice where he was, goes with the Earls of *Warwick* and *Salisbury*, who all three upon their knees preſent themſelves to him, making humble Petition for Pardon of what is paſt, and now ſeeing the Duke of *Somerſet*, the common Enemy, is ſlain, they had what

they aimed at: To whom the King throughly affrighted said, *Let there be no more killing then, and I will do what you would have me:* After which a Parliament was called, wherein the Duke of *York* was made Protector of the Kings Person and of the Realm, though the King were 35 years old; This Battle of St. *Albans* was fought *May* 23. in the 33 Year of K. *Henry*'s Reign, wherein the King himself was shot in the Neck with an Arrow. In 1461. another Battle was fought at St. *Albans*, between the Earl of *March*, Son to the Duke of *York*, and King *Henry* the 6. his Queen; for the Duke of *York* being slain at *Wakefield*, his Son *Edward*, E. of *March*, (afterward King *Edward* 4.) getting his forces together beat the Queens Army at *Mortimers Cross*, before which Battle it is said, the Sun appeared to the Earl of *March* like three Suns, and suddenly joyned altogether in one, for which it is thought he gave the Sun in its full brightness for his Badge or Cognizance: The Qu. in the mean time encouraged by the death of the Duke of *York*, got some *Northern* Souldiers together, and marched toward *London*, and coming to St. *Albans*, the Duke of *Norfolk*, and the Earl of *Warwick*, with the forces of the Earl of *March* (King *Henry* himself being Prisoner among them) encountred them, where after a stout resistance, the Queens Army routed the other, of which about 2000 were slain; after which the King, Queen, and the Prince her Son met joyfully together, though their joy continued not long, King *Henry* being deposed soon after, and *Edward* Earl of *March* proclaimed King, and all this by the assistance of the Citizens of *London* and their Wives, who were much inamoured with the Beautiful E. of *March*, In our remembrance, saith *Camden*, near *Fishpoolstreet* in St. *Albans*, certain Anchors were digged up, which is very strange, and worth enquiring into. There is a Brook near St. *Albans* called *Wenmere*, or *Womere*, which never breaketh out but it foretelleth scarcity of Corn, or else some extraordinary dangerous times to ensue, as the Vulgar believe. At *Ashwell* in this County rise so many sources of Springs together

gether, that they presently drive a Mill, and become a pretty big River.

Sir *Henry Cary* Kinsman to Queen *Eliz.* was made Baron of *Hunsdon* in this County, a valiant man, and lover of Men of their Hands, very cholerick, but not malicious; one Mr. *Cole* once meeting him, this Lord on some former grudge gave him a box on the Ear, *Cole* presently returned him three or four for it, upon which the Lords servants swarmed about *Cole* with their drawn Swords; *You Rogues*, said the Lord, *cannot I and my Neighbour change a Blow or two but you must interpose:* Thus the quarrel was begun and ended the same Minute. This Lord suppressed the first *Northern* Commotion, for which a Letter of Thanks was solemnly returned to him by the Queen, the first part whereof was written by the Secretary of State, but the Postscript was all of the Queens own hand, as followeth, *I doubt much my* Harry, *whether that the Victory given me more joyed me, or that you were by God appointed the Instrument of my Glory, and I assure you for my Countries good the first might suffice, but for my Hearts contentation the second more pleaseth me; it likes me not a little, that with a good Testimony of your Faith, there is seen a stout courage of your mind, that more trusted to the goodness of you quarrel, than to the weakness of your number; well I can say no more,* Beatus est ille servus, quem cum Dominus venerit, inveniet facientem sua Mandata: Happy is that servant whom when his Lord cometh he shall find doing his Commands; *And that you may not think you have done nothing for your Profit, (though you have done much for your Honour) I intend to make this journey somewhat to increase your livelihood, that you may not say to your self* Perditur quod factum est ingrato, what is done for an ingrate person is lost. *Your loving Kinswoman,*

Elizabeth *Regina.*

Three times was this Lord in Election to be Earl of *Wiltshire*, but some accident still hindered it; when he lay on his Death-bed the Queen gave him a gracious visit, causing his Patent for that Earldom to be drawn,

his Robes to be made, and both to be laid upon his Bed: But this Lord, who could never dissemble sick nor well, said; *Madam, seeing you did not count me worthy of this Honour while I was living, I count my self unworthy of it now I am dying.* He died 1596.

The County of *Hartford* is divided into 8 Hundreds, wherein are 18 Market Towns, 120 Parish Churches, and is in the Dioceses of *London*, *Chichester*, and *Lincoln*. Out of it are elected 6 Parliament-men; for the County 2. for St. *Albans* 2. for *Hartford* 2. And gives the Title of Marques to *Charles* L. *Seymour*, who is also Duke of *Somerset*, &c. as St. *Albans* doth that of Earl to *Henry* Lord *Jermin*.

HEREFORDSHIRE hath *Worcestershire* and *Shropshire* on the North; *Glocestershire* on the East, *Monmouthshire* on the South, and *Brecknock* and *Radnorshire* on the West; the Air thereof is very healthy, as appears by the Vivacity of the Inhabitants. Many aged People, which in other Countries are confined to their Beds and Chimney-Corners, are here found in the Fields, both able and willing to work, The ingenious Serjeant *Hoskin* gave an Entertainment to K. *James* in this County, and provided ten aged People to dance the Morris before him, all of them making up more than a Thousand Years; for what was wanting in one, was supplied in the age of another. This County shares as deep as any in the Alphabet of our *English* Commodities, though exceeding in W. that is for *Wood*, *Wheat*, *Wool*, and *Water*; besides excellent Fruit, especially *Apples*, of which the best *Sider* is made. There is a little Fountain called *Bonwell*, nigh *Richard*'s *Castle* in this County, the Water whereof is always full of the Bones of little Fishes, or as others conceive of little Frogs, they being so small as hardly to be distinguished: And, which addeth to the Wonder, this Spring can never be emptied of them, but as fast as some are drawn out, others presently succeed. To this may be added a second Wonder of *Marcley*-Hill in the East part of this County; for *Feb.* 17. 1571. the Earth began to open at 6 a Clock in the Evening, and this

this Hill with a Rock under it, made at first a mighty bellowing noise, which was heard a great way off, and then lifted up it self a great height, and began to travel, carrying along with it the Trees which grew upon it, the Sheepfolds, and Flocks of Sheep abiding thereon at the same time. In the place from whence it first moved, it left a gaping distance 40 Foot wide, and 80 Ells long, the whole Field was about twenty Acres. Passing along it overthrew a Chappel standing in its way, removed an Ewe-tree growing in the Church-Yard from the West to the East; with the like violence it thrust before it Highways, Houses, and Trees; it made *tilled* Ground *pasture*, and again turned *pasture* into *tillage:* Having thus walked from *Sunday* in the Evening, till *Monday* Noon; it then stood still, and moved no more, mounting to a Hill twelve Fathoms high.

In the Reign of *William the Conquerour*, *Walter* Bishop of *Hereford* attempted to force the Chastity of a Woman who was a Semstress, whom out of pretence of working for him he brought into his Chamber; but she refusing to consent, wounded him in the Belly with a pair of Scissars, whereof he died. In 1233. a little before the Wars broke forth between K. *Hen.* 3. and his Barons, there appeared at *Hereford* five Suns at once, and a certain great Circle of a Christal colour about two Foot in breadth, as it were compassing all *England*. In the Reign of King *Hen.* 4. 1402. *Owen Glendour* being by the *Welch* made their King and Captain, having got together a considerable number, brake into the Borders of *Herefordshire*, making Spoil and Prey of the Country, as freely as if they had leave to do it; and indeed, they had none to oppose them, but only the Lord *Edmund Mortimer*, who was at his Castle of *Wigmore*, he assembling the Country-Forces, and joining Battle with them was overthrown by them, himself being taken Prisoner, and then fettered, and cast into a deep and vile Dungeon; from whence King *Henry* would not be perswaded to deliver him, but could rather have wished both him, and his two Sisters in Heaven, they being all three Competitors

ters for the Crown with him, It was thought, if *Owen Glendour* had as well known how to uſe the Victory, as to get it, he might at this time have gone far in freeing the *Welch* from the *Engliſh* Yoak, but having killed a Thouſand of the *Engliſh*, he thought he had done enough for that time, and ſo giving over the purſuit, retired; The inhumanity of the *Welch* Women was here memorable, who fell upon the dead Carkaſes of the *Engliſh*, firſt ſtripping, and then cutting off their Privy Members, and Noſes, whereof the firſt they thruſt into their Mouths, and the other they preſſed between their Buttocks.

Sir *John Oldcaſtle* L. *Cobham* was born in this County, a valiant man, and a great Follower of *Wickliff*, for which he loſt his life; for this worthy Lord imbracing his Doctrines, and being a zealous defender both of them and the Profeſſors thereof, he thereby expoſed himſelf to the utmoſt fury and malice of his *Popiſh* adverſaries, and thereupon *Arundel* Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, called a Synod of the Clergy, who charged him with 246 Articles of Hereſy, and then made grievous complaints of him to K. *Henry* 5. who having patiently heard theſe blood-thirſty Wolves, deſired them that becauſe he was of Noble Blood, and was *his Knight*, they would endeavour to reduce him with gentleneſs, rather than rigor, promiſing alſo that himſelf would ſeriouſly diſcourſe with him concerning theſe matters; and accordingly ſent for the L. *Cobham*, adviſing him as an obedient Child to ſubmit himſelf to the Church, and acknowledge his fault; To whom this Chriſtian Knight anſwer-ep, *Moſt worthy Prince, I am always ready and willing to obey you, whom I know to be the Miniſter of God, bearing the Sword for the puniſhment of evil doers, and for the praiſe of thoſe that do well; unto you next to my eternal God, I owe all obedience and ſubmit all I have to you, being ready to obey at all times whatever you ſhall in the Lord command me, but as for the Pope and his Spiritualty, I owe them neither ſute nor ſervice, knowing him by the Scriptures to be the great Anttchriſt, the Son of Perdition, the open Enemy to God, and the Abomination ſtanding in the Holy place*; When the King heard this

ſtout

ſtout anſwer; he left him to the Biſhops, not daring indeed to do otherwiſe, the Princes of that Age being miſerably Prieſt-ridden and Inſlaved by the Pope and his Clergy; Then the Archbiſhop proceeded further againſt him, perſuading him to recant what he had written, or elſe threatning to condemn him as an Heretick; the L. *Cobham* anſwered, *Do as you think beſt, for I am at a point, that which I have written I will ſtand to, to the death*; Soon after the Archbiſhop came again, telling him he was ready to abſolve him if he humbly deſired it, *No*, ſaid the Lord *Cobham, I will not, for I never yet treſpaſſed againſt you*, and ſo kneeling down, and lifting up his Eyes and Hands toward Heaven, he ſaid; *I humbly confeſs my ſins unto thee O Eternal, and everliving God*; *In my frail youth I offended thee O Lord, by Pride, Covetouſneſs, Wrath, and Uncleanneſs, many men have I hurt in mine anger, and have committed many other horrible ſins, for which good Lord I ask thee forgiveneſs*; And then weeping, he ſtood up and ſaid, *Lo good People for breaking Gods Laws, and his Holy Commandments, the Prelates never yet curſed me; but for their own Laws and Traditions they handle me moſt cruelly, and therefore they and their Laws ſhall according to Gods promiſe be utterly deſtroyed.* After this they proceeded to read the Sentence of Condemnation againſt him, to whom the L. *Cobham* with a cheerful countenauce ſaid, *Though you judge my body which is but a wretched thing, yet I am ſure you can do no more harm to my Soul than Satan could to* Jobs, *for he that created it will, I doubt not, of his infinite mercy ſave it, and as for the Confeſſion of my Faith, I will ſtand to it even to the very death, by the Grace of my Eternal God*; And then turning to the People, he ſpake thus to them with a loud voice; *Good People for Gods ſake be well aware of theſe men, or elſe they will beguile you, and lead you blindfold into Hell with themſelves*, and ſo falling down upon his knees, he prayed for his Enemies, ſaying, *Lord God Eternal, I beſeech thee of thine infinite mercy to forgive my Perſecutors, if it be thy bleſſed will*, and ſo he was ſent back to the *Tower*, from whence he ſoon after eſcaped into *Wales*, where he lay concealed four years, though a great ſum of money was offered to bring

bring him in alive or dead. But at laſt the Lord *Powis*, either for love of the Money, or out of hatred to the True Chriſtian Religion, ſought divers ways to play the *Judas*, and at laſt obtained his purpoſe, apprehending him, and ſending him to *London*, where he was ſoon after drawn through the Streets, to the new Gallows in St. *Giles*'s *Fields*, and there firſt hanged, and then burnt on the Gallows: and this was the end of this Godly Martyr of *Jeſus Chriſt:* And though the Papiſts charge him with Treaſon, yet we know it hath ever been the Practice of the Devil, and his Inſtruments, to accuſe *God*'s Servants rather for Sedition than Religion, becauſe they perceive Princes are generally more careful of their own Honour, than *God*'s Glory; for thus they dealt with our Bleſſed Saviour. and St. *Paul*, who were accuſed for Diſloyalty, and ſtirring up Tumults. But the Almighty did not ſuffer his Death to go unpuniſhed; for the Arch-Biſhop, who ſate in Judgment upon him, and condemned him, was ſoon after ſtruck with a Diſeaſe in his Tongue, that he could neither ſwallow any thing, nor ſpeak a word ſome days before his Death, by which means he was ſtarved to death. *Robert Devereux*, Earl of *Eſſex*, was born in this County in 1567. He was a Maſter-piece of Court and Camp, and came with many advantages to the Court of Queen *Elizabeth*, who paſſionately loving his Perſon, ſent him once an angry loving Letter for going into *France*, often ſaying, *We ſhall have this young Fellow knocked on the Head, as fooliſh* Sidney *was, by his own forwardneſs*; and was impatient till his return: After this, upon ſome Miſdemeanors, he was brought to a private Tryal, wherein ſome words in his Letters were produced againſt him, as that, *No ſtorm is more fierce than the Indignation of an Impotent Prince: what, cannot Princes err? May they not injure their Subjects?* Theſe things being proved, he falling on his Knees, profeſſed he would not conteſt with the Queen, nor excuſe the faults of his young Years, proteſting that he always meant well, and therewith ſhed ſo many tears, as made the Spectators weep too. He was then cenſured, but the Queen ſoon for-

forgave him: however he retired into the Country, and remembred himself to the *Queen* by the Lord *Howard* in these words: *That he kissed the rod, and the Queens hands, which had only corrected, not overthrown him; yet he should never enjoy solid Comfort till he might see those blessed Eyes, which had been his load-stars, whereby he had happily steered his course while he held on his way at lawful distance: But now he resolved to eat Grass with* Nebuchadnezzar, *till it pleased the Queen to restore his Senses.* She being over-joyed with these Speeches; *Would to* God, said she, *his deeds would be answerable to his words; he hath long tried my patience, I must now make trial of his humility.* Upon which the Earl became so confident of the Queens Favour, that being denied a Suit about farming sweet Wines, he conspired with others to seize her Person; and which more alienated her Affections than any thing else, she heard he despised her Person, and that he had said, *That the Queen was now old and decrepit, and withered as well in mind as in body.* After this he made an Insurrection in *London*, which not succeeding, he was sent to the Tower; and being arraigned (together with the Earl of *Southampton*) by his Peers, was found guilty, and *Feb.* 25. 1601. was to be the fatal day. In the mean time divers Ministers were sent to comfort him. The Queen now wavered in her self; one while remembring former Kindnesses, she would not, and then again she would have him die, because of his stubbornes in not asking her Mercy, and his openly saying, *That he could not live, but she must perish:* So that she gave order for his Death within the *Tower*, where he spake to this purpose: *My Lords and Christian Brethren, who are present witnesses of my just punishment; I confess to* God's *Glory my self a most wretched Sinner, and that my sins in number exceed the hairs of my head; that good which I would have done, I did not; and the evil which I would not, that did I; for all which I beseech my Saviour* Christ, *to be a Mediator; but especially for this my last crying sin: I beseech* God, *Her Majesty, and the State to forgive me, and bless her with a prosperous Reign, with a wise and understanding Heart, to bless the Nobles and Ministers of the Church and State: I likewise be-*

seech

seech you and all the world to have a charitable opinion of me for my intention toward her Majesty, whose death I protest I never intended, nor any violence toward her Person, I thank God I never was an Atheist in not believing the Scriptures; *nor a* Papist *to trust in my own merits, but am assured to be saved by the merits and mercies of Jesus Christ my Saviour*; *This Faith I was brought up in, and herein I am now ready to die, beseeching you all to join your souls with me in Prayer, that my soul may be lifted up by Faith above all earthly things and lastly I desire forgiveness of all the world, even as freely as from my heart I forgive all the world*; And then kneeling down, said, *I have been divers times in places of danger, where death was neither so present nor so certain, and yet even then I felt the weakness of my flesh, and therefore now in this last and great conflict I desire the assistance of Gods Holy Spirit*; and so, saith Mr. *Speed*, with a most Heavenly Prayer, and faithful constancy, as if his soul had been already in heavenly fruition, he laid himself on the block, and spreading abroad his arms (the appointed sign,) with three strokes his head was severed from his body, for which the Executioner was in danger of his life at his return, if he had not been secured by the Sheriff; of this great Favourite Dr. *Fuller* concludes, *That his failings were neither so foul nor so many, but that the Character of a right worthy man most justly belongs to his memory*. It is recorded that *Walter* E. of *Essex*, his Father, having wasted his Spirits with grief, fell into a Dysentery whereof he dyed, after he had requested such as stood by him, *That they would admonish his Son* (who was then scarce ten years old) *that he should alwaies propound and set before him the 35th year of his life, as the utmost he should ever attain to, which neither he nor his Father had gone beyond*, and his Son never reached to, being beheaded in the 34th year of his Age, so that his dying Father seemed not in vain to have admonished him as he did, but to speak by divine inspiration and suggestion.

Hereford is the chief City of this County, seated amongst pleasant Meadows and Cornfields; *Lemster* is another Town, which hath the greatest fame for Wool, which

which they call *Lemſter Oar*; of which Mr. *Drayton* thus writes.

Where lives the man ſo dull, on Brittains *fartheſt ſhore,*
To whom did never ſound the name of Lemſter *Oar?*
That with the Silk-worms Web for ſmalneſs may compare,
Wherein the Winder ſhews his Workmanſhip ſo rare:
So doth this Fleece excel all others in the Land,
Being neatly bottom'd up by Natures careful hand.

This County is divided into 11 Hundreds, wherein there are 8 Market-Towns, 176 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Hereford*. Out of it are elected 8 Parliament Men; for the County 2; for *Hereford* 2. for *Lemſter* 2. for *Webley* 2. And gives the Title of Earl to *Leiceſter* Lord *D' Eureux.*

HUNTINGTONSHIRE is ſurrounded with *Northampton*, *Bedford*, and *Cambridge ſhires*, being ſmall extent, hardly ſtretching out 20 Miles outright, though meaſured to the moſt advantage: It is good for Corn and Tillage, aud toward the Eaſt very plentiful for feeding Cattle. *Huntington* is the chief Town of all the County, called in their publick Seal *Hunterſdune. The Hill or Down of Hunters*, and gives name to all the Shire. *Godmanchester* is a very great Country-Town, and of as great repute for Tillage; no Place having more Ploughs, or more ſtout Husbandmen; for they boaſt that in former times they have received the Kings of *England*, as they paſſed in their Progreſs this way, with nineſcore Ploughs, brought forth in a ruſtical kind of Pomp, as a Gallant Shew. When K. *James* came firſt into *England*, the Bayliffs of this Town preſented him with 70 Team of Horſes, all traced to fair new Ploughs, to ſhew their Husbandry: Of which, when the King demanded the reaſon, they told him, *That it was their antient Cuſtom, whenſoever any King of* England *paſſed through their Town, ſo to preſent him.* And added further, *That they held their Lands by that Tenure, being the King's Tenants.* The King was much pleaſed herewith, bidding them uſe well their Ploughs,

Ploughs, and ſaid, *he was glad he was Landlord of ſo many good Husbandmen in one Town.* St. *Ives* is another Town in this County, reported to be ſo named from *Ivo*, a *Perſian* Biſhop, who its ſaid, about the Year of Chriſt 600 travelled through *England*, Preaching diligently the Chriſtian Religion; and dying in this place left his name thereunto.

There are two little Springs at *Aylweſton* in this County, the one freſh and the other ſomewhat brackiſh; the latter they ſay is good for Scabs and Leproſie, and the other for dim ſights: The Lake of *Wittliſmere*, and other Meers near it in this Shire, do ſometimes riſe tempeſtuouſly in calm and fair Weather, and make Water-quakes by reaſon the ground near it is rotten and hollow, as ſome think, which occaſions vapours to break violently out of the Earth: The Natives who dwell about theſe Meers are healthy, and live long, but ſtrangers are ſubject to much ſickneſs. In the Year 1580. *Sept.* 23. at *Fennyſtanton* in this County one *Agnes*, Wife to *William Linſey*, was delivered of an ugly ſtrange Monſter, with a black Face, Mouth and Eyes like a Lion, which was both Male and Female. In 1584. there happened a ſtrange thing at *Spaldwick* in this Shire; Mr. *Dorrington*, one of the Gentlemen Penſioners to Q. *Elizabeth*, had a Horſe which died ſuddenly, and being opened to ſee the cauſe of his Death, there was found in his heart a Worm of a wondrous form, as it lay together in a kall or skin, it reſembled a Toad, but being taken thence the ſhape was hard to be deſcribed; the length of it divided into 80 grains, (which ſpread from the Body like the branches of a Tree) was from the Snout to the end of the longeſt grain 17 Inches, having 4 Iſſues in the grains, from whence dropped a red Water; the Body was 3 Inches and an half about, the Collar being like that of a Mackrel; this prodigious Worm crawling about to have got away was killed with a Dagger, and being dried was ſhewed to many Honourable Perſons as a great rarity.

We read that *Henry Holland* Duke of *Exeter*, and E. of *Huntington*, who married the Siſter of K. *Edward* 4.

was

was driven to such want, that passing into *Flanders*, *Philip de Comines* saith, he saw him running on Foot and bare-leg'd, after the Duke of *Burgundy*'s Train, begging his Bread for Gods sake; whom the Duke of *Burgundy* at that time did not know, though they had married two Sisters, but hearing afterward who it was, allowed him a small pension to maintain him, till not long after he was found dead upon the shore of *Dover*, and stripped all naked, but how he came by his death could never by any inquiry be brought to light. It is observed by Mr. *Speed*, that the antient Families of this County have been more outworn proportionably than in any other, few now remaining whose Sir-names were eminent in the Reign of K. *Hen.* 8. the reason whereof may probably be, because this Shire being generally Abby Lands, after their dissolution, many new purchasers planted themselves therein; But,

Let's not repine that Men and Names do die,
Since Stone-built Cities dead and ruin'd lie

This County is divided into 4 Hundreds, wherein are 6 Market Towns, and 69 Parish Churches, and is in the Diocess of *Lincoln*; out of it are elected 4 Parliament men; for the County 2. for *Huntington* 2. It gives the Title of Earl to *Theophilus* L. *Hastings*.

KENT in the *Saxon* Heptarchy was an entire Kingdom by it self, an honour which no other County attained to; it hath the *Thames* on the North, the Sea on the East and South, *Suffex* and *Surrey* on the West; from East to West it is 53 Miles, and from North to South 26. The upper part of it they say is healthful but not so wealthy; the middle they account both healthful and wealthy; the lower they hold to be wealthy but not healthy, as which for a great part thereof is very moist: It is every where almost full of Meadows, Pastures, and Corn fields; abounding wonderfully in Apple-trees and Cherry-trees; the Trees are planted after a very direct manner, one against another by square,

most

most pleasant to behold: It it plentiful of Fowl, Fish, and all sorts of grain; It hath Villages and Towns exceeding thick and well peopled, safe Roads, and sure Harbours for Ships with some Veins of Iron and Marble: The Air is somewhat thick and foggy, by reason of Vapours arising out of the Waters. This County hath 2 Cities and Bishops Seas, was strengthened formerly with 27 Castles, graced with 4 of the Kings Houses; The *Kentish* People in *Cæsars* time were accounted the civilest among the *Britains*, and had the Priviledge to lead the Van in all Battles for their valour shewed against the *Danes*, and those of *Cornwal*, *Devonshire*, and *Wiltshire* the Rear: They esteem themselves the first Christians, since their King and People received the Christian Faith before any other of the *Saxons*, in 596. yea and long before that time *Kent* received the Gospel, for it is recorded that *Lucius* the first Christian *British* King in this Island, built a Church for the service of Christ at *Dover*, endowing it with the Toll of that Haven. They glory that they were never conquered, but were compounded with by the *Norman* Conqueror, of whom our *English* Poet writes thus:

Stout Kent, *this praise to thee doth of most right belong,*
Thou never wast enslaved, impatient wert of wrong;
Who when the Norman *first with Pride and Horror sway'd,*
Threwst off the servile Yoak upon the English *laid,*
And with a Courage great most bravely didst restore
That Liberty so long enjoy'd by thee before,
Not suffering foreign Laws should thy free Customs bind,
And thereby shewedst thy self o'th noble Saxon *kind:*
Of all the English *Shires be thou sirnam'd the free.*
And foremost ever placed when they shall marshall'd be.

Of their throwing off the *Norman* Yoke, Mr. *Selden* thus explains it: When the *Norman* Conqueror had the day, he came to *Dover* Castle, the Lock and Key of the Kingdom, that he might with safety subdue *Kent* also, a most strong and populous Province, and secure himself from the Invasion of Enemies; which when *Stigand* Arch-

Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and the Abbot of St. *Austins*, who were the chief Lords and Governours of *Kent* understood, they assembled the Commons, and told them of the dangers of their Countrey, the miseries of their Neighbours, the Pride of the *French*, and that the *English* till then were born free, and the name of Villains or Bondsmen not heard among them; *but now slavery only attends us*, said he, *if we submit to the insolency of our Enemies*; And therefore these two Prelates offered to command them, and to dye with them in the defence of their Freedom and Country, whereby the People were so extreamly encouraged, that they concluded to meet at a day appointed at *Swanscomb*, two Miles West from *Gravesend*, where being come accordingly, and keeping themselves private in the Woods, they waited the coming of *William* the Conqueror, filling up all the way by which he was he to pass, with each of them a great green Bough in his hand, whereby they might hide their number from being discovered, and if occasion were, fall upon the *Normans*; the next day the Duke came by *Swanscomb*, and was much amazed to see a Wood as it were marching toward him, for being as he thought free from the Enemy, he was now beset on all sides with Trees, and knew not but all the other vast Woods thereabout were of the same nature, neither had he leisure to avoid the danger, for the *Kentish* men immediately enclosing his Army about, displayed their Banners, and throwing down their Branches, at the sound of a Trumpet, prepare their Bows and Arrows ready for a Fight; so that the Conqueror, who just before though he had the whole Kingdom absolutely at Command, began now to despair of his own Life; of which Consternation the two valiant Prelates taking advantage, presented themselves to the Duke, and thus addressed him in behalf of their followers: *Most noble Duke, behold here the Commons of* Kent *are come forth to meet and receive you as their Soveraign in peace, upon condition they may for ever enjoy their ancient Liberties, Freedoms, and Estates, which they received from their Forefathers; If these be denied, they are*

here

here ready to give you battle immediately, being fully reſolved rather to die, than to part with our ancient Laws, or to live in ſlavery and bondage, the name and nature whereof as it hath been hitherto unknown to us, ſo we will rather every man loſe his Life than ever endure it. The Conqueror driven to a ſtrait, and loth to hazard all upon ſo nice a point, their demands being not unreaſonable, rather wiſely than willingly granted their deſires, and Pledges on both ſides are given for performance, *Kent* yielding her Earldom and Caſtle of *Dover* to her new King *William*: Among other Cuſtoms they retain one called *Gavelkind*, that is, *Give all kin*, whereby Lands are divided among the Male-Children, or if there be no Sons, among the Daughters, by which every man is a Freeholder, and hath ſome part of his own to live upon: By vertue of this alſo they are at full age, and enter upon their Inheritance at 15 Years old, and it is lawful for them to alienate or make it over to any, either by gift or ſale, without the Lords Conſent: By this likewiſe the Son, though his Parents be hanged for Felony or Murder, ſucceedeth them nevertheleſs, in ſuch kind of Lands according to that Rhime,

The Father to the Bough,
And the Son to the Plough.

K. *William* after this to ſecure *Kent* to himſelf, placed a Conſtable in *Dover* Caſtle, and according to the manner of the *Romans*, made him alſo Lord of the *Cinque-ports*, which are *Haſtings*, *Dover*, *Hith*, *Rumney* and *Sandwich*, unto which are joined *Winchelſey* and *Rye*, as principal Ports, and other ſmall Towns as Members, which becauſe they are bound to ſerve in the Wars by Sea, enjoy many great Priviledges, being free from the payment of Subſidies, and from Wardſhip of their Children, and are not ſued in any Court but within their own Towns; and of the Inhabitants therein, ſuch as they call Barons, at the Coronation of Kings and Queens ſupport the Canopies over them, and have a Table by themſelves on the Kings Right hand, and the Lord

Warden

Warden, who is always of the Nobility, hath the Authority of Chancellor and Admiralty within his Jurisdiction, in very many caſes, and hath many other Rights.

Canterbury is the chief City of this County, ancient and famous no doubt in the time of the *Romans*; The Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* was called, *Totius Angliæ Primas*, Primate of all *England*, the Archbiſhop of *York* only *Primas Angliæ*, Primate of *England*; he is the firſt Peer of the Realm, and hath the Precedency of all Dukes not of the Royal Blood or great Officers of State, *Anſelm* in recompence of his ſervice in oppoſing the Marriage of Prieſts, and reſiſting the King about inveſting Biſhops, had this acceſſion of honour given him by Pope *Urbane*, *That he and his Succeſſors ſhould have place at the Popes right foot in all General Councils*, the Pope adding theſe words, *We include him in our Orb, as Pope of another world.* This City hath had a rare Cathedral, it is in the midſt of the Town, the body within being near as large as St. *Pauls* in *London* was, between the body and the Quire there hangeth a Bell called by the name of Bell *Harry*, being one of thoſe which *Henry* 8. brought out of *France*; there are alſo four Spires like St. *Sepulchres* *London*; on each ſide of the great Weſt Gate are 2 other Steeples, the one called *Dunſtan*, and the other *Arnold* Steeples, in each of which are a very pleaſant ring of Bells; in the ſame Cathedral there was the famouſeſt window in *England*, for which they ſay the *Spaniſh* Ambaſſador offered Ten Thouſand pound; being the whole Hiſtory of Chriſt from his Nativity to his Paſſion, but it was afterward battered to pieces; In the Quire of the Cathedral, *Edward*, called the *Black Prince*, is buried in a Monument of Braſs; underneath this Cathedral there is a great Congregation of *French* Proteſtants, the *Dutch* alſo have a Church in that place, which is called the *Biſhops Pallace*; there are many other Churches in the City and Suburbs.

It is reported by the Monks of that Age, that in the year 619. *Canterbury* being accidentally on fire, which raged

raged ſo extreamly againſt all oppoſition, that the greateſt part of the City was almoſt burnt down, and the furious flaſhes thereof extended to the Biſhops Pallace, whereupon *Melitus* the Archbiſhop ſeeing mans help fail and truſting to Divine Aſſiſtance, commanded himſelf to be carried out of his houſe, and ſet againſt the fierceſt flames, which were it ſeems in the place of the Martyrdom of four Saints, where the Biſhop being accordingly placed, though grievouſly tormented with the Gout, yet went to Prayers, when behold the wind ſuddenly turned, and thereby the fire was ſoon after wonderfully quenched. In the Reign of K. *Henry* 2. 1172. *Thomas Becket*, Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, who was Canonized by the Pope, though an Arch-Traitor to his King and Country, being murthered, was at firſt obſcurely buried, but afterward his body was taken up, and laid in a moſt ſumptuous ſhrine in the Eaſt end of the Cathedral by *Stephen Langton* his Succeſſor; To this new ſhrined Martyr, People of all degrees, and from all parts flocked in Pilgrimage, loading his Tomb with ſuch large Offerings, that the Church all round about did abound with more than Princely Riches, the meaneſt part being of pure Gold, garniſhed with many precious Stones; the chiefeſt whereof was a rich Jewel offered by K. *Lewis* of *France*, who required, and we may be ſure was told he had obtained, having bought it ſo dear, *That no Paſſenger between* Dover *and* Whiteſand *ſhould periſh by Shipwrack*, There was ſuch preſſing to touch St. *Thomas* his body, and ſuch creeping and kneeling to his Tomb, that the Prints of their Devotion, ſaith *Lambert*, appear to this day in the Marble Stones, and every Pillar reſounded the Miracles of this reputed Martyr, yea the Church itſelf which was dedicated to Chriſt, was forced to give place to the name of St. *Thomas*; his blood was almoſt matched in virtue with our Bleſſed Saviours, and his old ſhoe was devoutly kiſſed by all Paſſengers; *John Stow* thus deſcribeth the Shrine, it was built, ſaith he, about a mans height all of Stone, and from thence upward of Timber, within which was a

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The Rebellion under kelt the Tanner in the Oak of Reformation neer Norwich. Pa. 149.

chest of Iron, containing the bones of *Thomas Becketts* skull and all, with the wound of his death, and the piece cut out of his skull laid in the wound, the Timber work of this Shrine was covered on the outside with Plates of Gold, damasked, and imbossed with Goldwire, garnished with Brooches, Images, Angels, Chains, Precious Stones, and large Orient Pearls, the spoil of which in K. *Hen.* 8ths time, in Gold and Jewels of inestimable value, filleſt 2 great Chests, one of which six or eight strong men could scarce carry out of the Church, all which were seized for the Kings use, and his bones burnt to Ashes. 1538. Divers Epitaphs, and Anthems were composed in memory of this Martyr, and this among others.

Tu per *Thomæ* sanguinem quem pro te impendit
Fac nos (Christe) scandere quo *Thomas* ascendit.
For the blood of Thomas *which he for thee did spend,*
Grant us (*Christ*) *that we may climb where* Thomas *did* (*ascend.*

The Pope likewise writ to the *English* Clergy to make a new Holiday for St. *Thomas*, as they expected pardon through his Intercession to God for them; At *Aldbaldown* in *Kent*, there was an Hospital erected by Archbishop *Lanfrank*, wherein was reserved the upper leather of an old shoe, which they said had been worn by St. *Thomas Becket*, and being set fair in Copper and Christal, was offered to be kissed by all Passengers. In the Reign of *Eaward* 3. there was great variance between the A. Bishops of *Canterbury* and *York*, and the Landoners were cursed by the A. B. of *Canterbury*, because they suffered he of *York* to carry his Cross in that City, but the King ended the difference, ordering they should both freely carry the Cross in each others Province, but that in sign of subjection, the A. B. of *York* should send the Image of an Archbishop, bearing a Cross or some other Jewel wrought in fine gold, to the value of 40 p unds to *Canterbury*, and offer it publickly there upon St. *Thomas Becketts* Shrine; They likewise report

that *Thomas* lying in an old Houſe at *Otford*, and finding it want a Spring, he ſtruck his Staff into the dry ground, from whence iſſued Water, and is called to this day St. *Thomas* Well; and that a Nightingale diſturbing his Devotions one time in that place, he commanded that from thenceforth no bird of that kind ſhould dare ſing there; many other ſuch ridiculous miracles are reported, which were invented by *Popiſh* Knaves, and believed by none but *Popiſh* Idiots. In 1386. *William Courtney* Archbiſhop of *Canterbury* ſummoned certain of his Tenants to anſwer an heinous and horrible Treſpaſs, as he called it, which was *That they brought Straw to litter his Horſes, not in Carts as formerly, but in Bags*; for which wicked Offence, having confeſſed their fault, and asked him forgiveneſs, he enjoined them this Pennance, That going leiſurely before the Proceſſion barefoot, and bare leg'd, each of them ſhould carry upon his Shoulder a Bag ſtuffed with Straw hanging out, whereupon theſe Rhimes were made:

This Bag full of ſtraw I bear on my Back,
Becauſe my Lords Horſe his Litter did lack;
If you be not the better to my Lord Graces Horſe.
You are like to go bareſoot before the Croſs.

In the Reign of K. *James* Dr. *George Abbot* Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, being hunting in a Park, and ſhooting at a Deer, his Arrow by miſchance glanced and killed a man; upon which Fact it was much debated, whether by it he were not become irregular, and ought to be deprived of his Archbiſhoprick, as having imbrued his hands (though unwillingly) in Blood; but Biſhop *Andrews* of *Wincester*, and Sir *Hen. Martin* Advocate, defended him, giving ſuch reaſons for mitigation of the Fact, that he was cleared from all imputation of crime, and thereupon judged regular, and in ſtate to continue in his Archiepiſcopal Charge; yet out of a religious tenderneſs of mind, he kept that day in which the miſchance happened as a ſolemn faſt all his life after. In the Year 1553. *Nicholas Wotton*, Dean of *Canterbury* being

ing then Ambaſſador in *France*, dreamed that his Nephew *Thomas Wotton* was inclined to be a Party in ſuch a Project, as if he were not ſuddenly prevented, would turn to the loſs of his Life, and ruine of his Family; the night following he dreamed the ſame again, and knowing that it had no influence upon his waking thoughts, and much leſs the deſires of his heart, he did then more ſeriouſly conſider it, and reſolved to uſe ſo prudent a Remedy by way of prevention, as might be no great inconvenience to either party, and thereupon writ a Letter to Queen *Mary*, that ſhe would cauſe his Nephew to be ſent for out of *Kent*, and that the Council might interrogate him in ſuch feigned Queſtions as might colour his Commitment into a favourable Priſon, of which he would hereafter give Her Majeſty the true Reaſon; this was done accordingly, and ſoon after the Queen being married to K. *Philip*, divers perſons declared, and raiſed forces againſt it, among whom Sir *Thomas Wiat* of *Kent* (with whom the Family of the *Wottons* had an entire Friendſhip) was the Principal, who being defeated, ſuffered death with many others, for the ſame; and of this number Mr. *Wotton* in all probability had been, for he afterward confeſſed to his Uncle that he had ſome ſtrong intimation of *Wiat*'s deſign, and believed he ſhould have been engaged in it, if his Uncle had not ſo happily dreamed him into a Priſon. Thus much for *Canterbury*.

Rocheſter is another City and Biſhops See in this County; the Cathedral is low and little, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, proportional to the Revenues thereof, yet hath it, though no Magnificence, a venerable aſpect of antiquity therein: There was a Caſtle built in K. *William*'s time, but now all in ruines: In the woful Wars of the Barons when K. *John* was viewing this Caſtle held againſt him by the E. of *Arundel*, he was eſpied by a very good Archer, who told the Earl thereof, adding, *That if he would but ſay the word, he would quickly diſpatch the cruel Tyrant*; *God forbid, vile Varlet*, ſaid the Earl, *that we ſhould procure the death of the Holy One of God*: Why, ſaid the Souldier, *he*

would not ſpare you if he had you at the like advantage: No matter for that, ſaid the Earl, *let Gods Will be done, he will diſpoſe thereof, but let us not hurt the King. Chatham* joyns to this City, and is now one of the Royal Docks for building Ships, of which this ſtory is recorded: It happened the dead Corps of a man was caſt aſhore in this Town, and being taken up was buried decently in the Church-Yard; now there was an Image or Rood in the Church, called our Lady of *Chatham*, this Lady, ſay the Monks, went next night and rouſed up the Clerk, telling him that a ſinful perſon was buried near the place where ſhe was worſhipped, who offended her Eyes with his ghaſtly grinning, and unleſs he were removed, to the great grief of good People ſhe muſt remove from thence, and could work no more miracles, therefore deſired him to go with her to take him up, and throw him into the River again; which being done, ſoon after the Body floated again, and was again taken up and buried in the Church-Yard; but from that time all miracles ceaſed, and the place where he was buried did continually ſink downward; this Tale is ſtill remembred by ſome aged People, receiving it by Tradition from the *Popiſh* times of darkneſs and Idolatry. In the Reign of K. *Will. Ruſus* all the Lands in *Kent* ſometime belonging to Earl *Godwin* were by breaking in of the Sea covered with ſands, and are called *Godwin Sands* to this day; It is ſaid, that *Thira* a *Dane*, *Godwins* Wife, uſed to make Merchandiſe of the beautiful Virgins of *England*, by ſelling them to *Denmark* at a dear rate, ſeeking thereby to ſatisfie her own Covetouſneſs and the *Danes* Luſts, which practice ſhe continued till Divine Vengeance fell upon her by a Thunderbolt from Heaven, whereby ſhe was ſlain. In 1199. The Town of *Malling* in *Kent* with the Nunnery were conſumed with Fire. In 1216. about *Maidſtone* a certain Monſter was found ſtruck with Lightning, which had an head like an Aſs, a belly like a Man, and other parts far differing from any other Creature. In the firſt of Q. *Mary* the braveſt Ship then in *England*, called the *Great Harry*, being of Burden a Thouſand Tun,

was

was burnt by negligence at *Woolwich*: About the same time the Parson of *Crondal* near *Canterbury* preaching upon a *Shrove Sunday*, went besides his Text into an impertinent discourse in commendation of the Popes Articles lately set forth, and in disgracing the Protestant Religion, speaking thus to the People; *My Masters and Neighbours, rejoyce and be merry, for the Prodigal Son is come home; for I know your hearts well enough, that the most of you are like my self, and I shall tell you what happened to me this week; I have been with my* Lord *Cardinal* Pool, *and he hath made me as clean from my Sins as I was at the Font-stone, and he hath also appointed me to publish unto you the Bull of the Popes Pardon,* (reading it to them and adding) he thanke God that ever he lived to see that day, and he believed by vertue of that Bull he was clean from sin as the Night he was born; which words he had no sooner uttered, but he was struck with sudden death, and never stirred more, to the astonishment of the Spectators.

In 1575, a vast mighty Whale was cast upon the Isle of *Thanet* in *Kent*, Twenty Ells long, and 13 Foot broad from the belly to the backbone, and his Tail as broad; the nether Jaw was 12 Foot, and as much between the Eyes, some of his Ribs were 15 Foot long, and so was his Tongue; one of his Eyes being taken out of his Head was more than a Cart with 6 Horses could draw, the Oyl being boiled out of the Head was *Parmacitte*. In 1548, one Mr. *Arden* of *Kent* by procurement of his Wife was murdered in his own House; being dead his Body was carried out and laid on the ground, in a Close hard by, where this is memorable; that for two Years after, the ground where his Body lay bare no grass, but still represented as it were a picture of his Body, only in the space between his Legs and Arms there grew Grass, but where any part of his Body touched, none at all; yet this miraculous accident was not, it may be, so much for the Murder, as for the Curses of a Widow Woman, out of whose hands this Mr. *Arden* had bought this very Close, to her utter undoing; and thus Divine Justice even in this World oftentimes works Miracles upon Of-

senders, for a merciful warning to others, if they will be so wise to take it. In 1585. *Aug.* 4. a marvellous accident happened in the Hamlet of *Mottingham* near *Eltham*, in this County, in a field belonging to Sir *Percival Hart*; betimes in the morning the ground began to sink so much, that three great Elm Trees were suddenly swallowed into the Pit, the Tops falling downward into the hole, and before 10 a Clock they were so overwhelmed, that no part of them could be discerned, the place being suddenly filled with Water; the compass of the whole was about 80 Yards, and so deep, that a sounding line of 50 fathoms could hardly find or feel any bottom, ten yards distance from this place there was another piece of ground sunk in the same manner near the Highway, and so nigh a dwelling House, that the Inhabitants were greatly terrified thereby.

In 1602. *April* 20. Thirteen Persons were slain by misfortune at the Gunpowder-Mill at *Redriff*, and much more hurt done in divers places. *Nicholas VVood* of *Harrison* in this County, Yeoman, did with ease eat a whole Sheep of 16 shillings price, and that raw, at one meal; another time he eat 30 dozen of Pigeons; at Sir *VVilliam Sidlys* he eat as much as would have sufficed 30 men; at the Lord *VVottons* in *Kent*, he eat at one meal 84 Rabbets, which number would have sufficed 168 men, allowing to each half a Rabbet; he suddenly devoured 18 yards of black pudding, *London* measure, and having once eat 60 pound weight of cherries, he said they were but washmeat; he made an end of a whole Hog at once, and after it swallowed three pecks of Damasons, this was after break-fast, for he said he had eat one pottle of milk, one pottle of pottage with Bread, Butter, and Cheese before: he eat in my presence, saith *Taylor the VVater Poet*, six penny Wheaten Loaves, three six peny Veal Pies, one pound of sweet butter, one good dish of Thornback, and a shiver of a peck Houshold Loaf an inch thick, and all this in the space of an hour; the House yielded no more, and so he went away unsatisfied; one *John Dale* was too hard for him at a place called *Lenham*,

Lnham, he laid a Wager he could fill *Woods* belly with good wholsome Victuals for 2 Shillings, and a Gentleman waged on the contrary, that when he had eaten out *Dales* two shillings, he should then presently eat up a whole good Sirloine of Beef; *Dale* bought six pots of mighty Ale, and 12 new peny white Loaves, which he sopped therein, the powerful fume whereof conquered this Conqueror, and laid him in a sleep, to the preservation of the roast Beef, and unexpected winning of the wager; he spent all his Estate to provide provant for his belly, and though a landed Man, and a true Labourer, died very poor about 1630.

In 1652. One *Adam Sprackling* Esq; lived at St. *Lawrence* in the Isle of *Thanet*, he had a fair Estate, and Married Sir *Robert Lewkners* Daughter, but growing extreamly debauched, brought himself into many troubles, and spent his Estate; This Gentleman coming home one night, fell into a great rage against his Wife, who was a very virtuous Lady, and resolving to mischief her, he first struck her with his Dagger, hurting her Jaw, which she bore patiently, saying little to him; He raged still more against her, and she rising to go away, he struck her with a chopping knife on the wrist, and cut the bone in sunder; he then dashed her on the fore-head with the Iron Cleaver, whereupon she fell down bleeding, but recovering her self on her knees, she prayed God to forgive her Husband his Sins, as she did; and likewise to pardon her own sins; while she was thus praying, her bloody Husband chopt her head in the midst, even to the very brains, so that she fell down dead immediately, then did he kill 6 Dogs, 4 of which he threw by his Wife, and chopped her twice into the Leg after she was dead; being apprehended for this horrid murther, he was carried to *Sandwich* Goal, and was Tryed, Condemned and Executed for the same, dying very desperately; and refusing to discourse either with Ministers or Gentlemen who came thither to speak to him.

In 1655. Sir *George Sonds* of *Kent* had two Sons grown up to that Age, wherein he might have expected

moſt comfort from them, but the younger of them having no apparent cauſe, or provocation, either from his Father or Brother, did in a moſt unnatural and barbarous manner murther his elder Brother, concerning which, Sir *George* in a Narrative written by himſelf, uſeth theſe expreſſions; *For my Sons wickedneſs, I muſt needs ſay* Cains *was not greater, for he did it in the Field, and firſt talked with his Brother, and had ſome pretence of reaſon for it, and becauſe* Abel, *and his offering was more reſpected, but thou, ſaies he, didſt murther thy Brother baſely and inhumanely, not in the Field, but in his Bed, thou didſt not talk and diſpute it with him, but didſt kill him ſleeping, and couldſt hear nothing but ſad groans from him; nor didſt thou do it with a Sword or manly weapon, but with a butcherly Cleaver didſt beat out his brains, and as if that had been too little, with a moſt cowardly Steellet to didſt ſtab him 7 or 8 times in and about the heart; thou couldſt have no ſuch pretence as* Cain *had, for thou waſt ever equally reſpected with thy Brother; Even prophane* Eſau *came ſhort of thee, he did but reſolve to kill his Brother, but when he met him he repented and imbraced him, but thou didſt go through with thy work, in the height of malice, and when thou hadſt brought me to him, after thou hadſt ſlain him, I ſaw not any relenting in thee, not one tear to drop from thine eyes for that foul Fact;* Judas *did betray his innocent Maſter, but thou didſt more, for thou didſt kill thy innocent Brother;* Judas *did but deliver up his Maſter to the Judge for Trial, but thou waſt Judge and Executioner thy ſelf; He might plead that the Devil (after he had taken the Sop) entered into him, and that he was hired for 30 pieces of Silver; thou hadſt no Devil, nor any hire but thy own malicious nature; he did it in the dark night, as aſhamed that the* Light *ſhould ſee ſo foul a Fact; But thou in the fair morning when the Sun was riſen, and ſhined clear; He gave his Maſter time to pray before he took him; but thou didſt kill thy Brother ſleeping, not ſuffering him to wake or ſpeak, only to ſigh and groan, and that moſt ſadly, yet all moved thee not,* &c. This young man was ſoon after deſervedly Executed for this horrid Fratricide, and of this worthy Knight loſt both his Sons at one time.

Two Watermen of *Graveſend*, one named *Smith*, and the

the other *Gurnay*, being some years before hired by a Grasier to carry him down to *Tilbury Hope*, intending to go to a certain Fair in *Essex* to buy Cattle; these Villains by the way perceiving he had mony, conspired to take away his life, and accordingly one of them cut his throat, and the other taking his mony, threw him overboard; This Murther was concealed divers years, but in 1656. these Murtherers being drinking together, fell out, and one of them in his passion accused the other of Murther, and he again accused him, upon which being apprehended aud examined, they confessed the Fact, were condemned at *Maidstone* Assizes, and hanged in Chains at *Gravesend*. In 1658. *June* 3. A Whale came up the *Thames* as high as *Deptford*, and being discovered at *Greenwich*, many Boats made out after her, and a Marriner struck her with an harping Iron, whereupon she spouted forth much water and blood, and roared like a Lyon, and so beating her self up and down till she came below *Greenwich*, she there turned up her Belly and died; she was 59 foot long, and 15 foot high as she lay on her Belly; *September* 3. following, *Oliver Cromwel* died, three days before which there was such a Tempestuous and violent wind as overthrew divers Houses, brake and overturned many Trees by the roots, and did much mischief. In 1660. *August* 24. At *Dover* from 10 a clock at night till 2 next morning, were such storms of Hail, accompanied with Thunder and Lightning, as the like was never known, some of the Hailstones that fell were as big as Walnuts, and were measured 4 inches about; the dammage was reckoned 50 pound in glass Windows which were broken. In 1662. *July* 2. about 3 in the afternoon there happened a very strange whirlwind in *Mason Dufield* between the Town and Castle of *Dover*, at the upper end of which Field the wind took up divers sheafs or wards of Pease, a vast height into the Air, and carried them over the Town into the Sea; and it was judged they were carried two or three miles before they fell into the Sea; it also took up some Calves and other small Cattle, and threw them into a Ditch; a

Hoy likewiſe in the Road was almoſt overſet by it. Upon *Aug.* 4. following, ſeveral great *Spouts* were ſeen in *Dover Road*, about quarter Seas over; ſome affirm they were 7 and about half a mile aſunder, and ran about half an hour, they were big at both ends, and ſlender in the middle; ſome Seamen affirmed they were bigger then thoſe in the *Streights*, and are very unuſual in theſe Seas.

The County of *Kent* is divided into 5 Laths, and 67 Hundreds, wherein are 29 Market Towns, and 408 Pariſh Churches; it is in the Dioceſs of *Canterbury* and *Rocheſter*; and gives the Title of Earl to *Anthony* L. *Grey*, as *Dover* doth to *John* L. *Cary*; *Thanet* to *Nicholas* L. *Tuſton*; *Rocheſter* to *John* L. *Wilmot*; *Sandwich* to *Edward* L. *Montague*, and *Feverſham* to *Lewes* L. *Duras*. It Elects 10 Parliament Men.

LANCASHIRE hath the *Iriſh* Sea on the Weſt, *Yorkſhire* on the Eaſt, *Cheſhire* parted with the River *Merſey* on the South, and *Weſtmorland* on the North; It is a County Palatine, and is repleniſhed with all neceſſaries for the uſe of man, yielding without any great labour, Corn, Flax, Graſs, Coals, and is plentifully furniſhed with Fiſh, Fleſh and Fowl; the *Brigantes* the ancient Inhabitants of this County were ſubdued by the Emperor *Claudius*, who ſecured it by Garriſons, as appears by the many Inſcriptions found in Walls, and by certain Altars erected in honour of ſome of their Emperours; it is famous for the four *Henries*, the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh, all derived from *John* Duke of *Lancaſter*; the Shire Town is *Lancaſter*, more pleaſant in ſituation, than rich in Inhabitants, the beauty thereof is in the Church, Caſtle, and Bridge; *Mancheſter* is a Town of great Antiquity from *Main* a *Britiſh* word, which ſignifieth a Stone; it is ſeated upon a ſtony hill, and beneath the Town there are moſt famous quarries of Stone; it far excelleth the Towns lying about it for the beautiful ſhew it maketh, for reſort to it, and for clothing in regard alſo of the Market place, the fair Church and Colledge.

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In this Province King *Arthur* is reported to have put the *Saxons* to flight in a memorable Battle near *Duglas*, a little Brook near the Town of *Wiggan*; In this Shire not far from *Fourneſs Fells*, or Hills, is the greateſt ſtanding water in all *England*, called *Winander Mere*, which is wonderful deep, and 10 miles over, and all paved with Stone as it were on the bottom, it breeds a Fiſh called a *Chare*, no where elſe to be found. At *Ferneby* the People uſe Cannal or Turfs, both for Fewel and Candle, which when they dig, they find under them a certain black water, upon which ſwims a fat oily matter, and therein are little Fiſhes, which the Diggers catch; on the very top of *Pendlehill* grows a peculiar plant called *Cloudeſberry*, as though it came out of the Clouds; this Hill ſome years ago did the Country near it much harm, by reaſon of an extraordinary deal of water guſhing out of it; it is alſo famous for an infallible ſign of rain, whenſoever the top of it is covered with a miſt; there are three great Hills here, not far diſtant from each other, ſeeming to be as high as the Clouds, which are, *Ingelburrough*, *Pinigent*, and this *Pendle*; In the Reign of Q. *Mary*, Biſhop *Bonner* put out a Mandate to the Prieſts within his Dioceſs, commanding that comely Roods or Images ſhould again be ſet up in all Churches, the ſame injunction was publiſhed in other Dioceſſes; in purſuance whereof, the Churchwardens of *Cockram* in *Lancaſhire*, had agreed with a Carver to make them a Rood to ſet up in their Church, at a certain price; the Carver accordingly made one, but the Image being of an ugly grim countenance, they diſliked it, and refuſed to pay the Workman; who thereupon brought them by a Warrant before the Mayor of *Lancaſter*, who was a favourer of the Proteſtant Religion, when they came before him, he asked them why they did not pay the man according to agreement, they replied, They did not like the grimneſs of his Viſage, ſaying, *They had a Man formerly with a handſome face, and would have had ſuch another now.* *Well*, ſaid the Mayor, *though you like not the Rood, the poor mans labour has been never the leſs, and it's pity he ſhould loſe by it*; *But*

I'll

I'le tell you what you shall do, pay him the money you promised him, and if it will not serve you for a God, you may make a Devil of it. At which answer they laughed and departed.

In the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, a certain Jesuit in *Lancashire*, as he was walking by the way, lost his Glove, and one that came after him finding it, followed him apace, with an intention to restore it, but he fearing the worst, being inwardly pursued with a guilty conscience, ran away, and hastily leaping over an Hedge, fell into a Marle-pit, which was on the other side, in which he was drowned; In 1613. *April* 17. in the Parish of *Standish* in *Lancashire*, a Maiden Child was born, having four Legs, four Arms, two Bellies joined to one back, one head with two faces, the one before, the other behind like the Picture of *Janus*. In 1662. *July* 4. At *Litham* about two miles from *Preston* in this County a very strange Fish was cast upon the Shoar; it was about four yards in length, and as big as an ordinary Horse, the forefeet were as long as a mans Arm; the hinder feet much shorter, but broad like the Finns of a Fish, it roared most dreadfully like a Bear, it continued alive for some time, and multitudes of People came to view it. Also much about the same time, and nine miles from this place, many credible Persons often saw a very dreadful Serpent come forth out of a Wood, the length thereof being about five or six yards, and they judged it to be bigger than the biggest Cart Axel Tree; it was so great that some who viewed the place where it sometimes lay, near a Well at *Dunkin Hall* affirm, that it made such an impression on the ground, as if an Ox or some more large and ponderous Beast had lain there. The Thirtieth of the same month at *Ormskirk*, there happened such a storm of Hail, as was hardly ever seen, it beat down the Apples, spoil'd the Corn, broke the glass Windows, on that side of the Houses the Wind was of, and cut the lead in pieces; some Hailstones were taken up 8 Inches about, and some as big as Pullets Eggs; all the *French* Wheat was utterly spoil'd, and the other Wheat and Barley in the three adjacent Parishes much damaged.

This

This County is divided into 6 Hundreds, wherein are 26 Market-Towns, and 61 Churches, and is in the Diocese of *Chester*. It Elects 14 Parliament-men. *Manchester* gives the Title of Earl to *Robert* L. *Montague*.

LEICESTERSHIRE hath *Lincoln* and *Rutland Shires* on the East, *Derby* and *Nottingham Shires* on the North, *Warwickshire* on the West, and *Northamptonshire* on the South. It is a Champion Country, and abounds with Corn, Cattle, and Coals. The chief City *Leicester* stands almost in the Heart of the County, which by *Etheldred*, the *Mercian* King, was made an Episcopal See; but beeing removed, the Beauty of the Town decayed; yet the renowned Lady *Ethelfleda* casting an Eye of Compassion upon it, re-edified the Buildings, and compassed it about with a strong Wall, whereby the Trade of the City was much increased. But in the Reign of *Hen.* 2. *Robert* Earl of *Leicester* rebelling against him, the King besieged, took, and plundered it, throwing down the Walls, which seemed hard to be done, some Parcels of them remaining like hard Rocks by reason of the excellent Mortar. The King then commanded the City to be set on Fire and burnt, the Castle to be razed, and an heavy Imposition was laid upon the Citizens, who with great Sums of Money bought their own Banishments. In the nineth Year of K. *Henry* 5. a Parliament was called at *Leicester*, wherein an 110 Priories were suppressed, because they spoke ill of his Conquests in *France*, and their Possessions given to the King.

In 1485. King *Richard*, called *Crookback*, set out of this City in the Morning to meet the Earl of *Richmond*, (afterward K. *Henry* 7.) and chose *Bosworth*-Field to try his Fortune with him for the Crown of *England* that day. The Van of his Army was led by the Duke of *Norfolk*, consisting of 1200 Bow-men, flanked with 200 *Curiassers* under the E. of *Surrey:* The main Battle K. *Richard* led himself, being 1000 Billmen, empaled with 2000 Pikes. The King expected the L. *Stanly*'s 2000 Horse to come

for

for his aſſiſtance; of whoſe Fidelity to him the King having ſome doubt, he had before got his Son the Lord *Strange* as a Pledge of his Loyalty with him. *Stanly* not appearing, K. *Richard* ſent a Letter to him to come preſently into his Preſence, or elſe he ſwore by *Chriſt*'s Paſſion, he would ſtrike off his Sons Head before he dined. To which the L. *Stanly* returned Anſwer, *That if he did ſo he had more Sons alive, and he might do his Pleaſure; but to come to him he was not determined.* Which Anſwer when K. *Richard* heard, he commanded the L. *Strange* to be immediately beheaded; but it being at the very time when both Armies were in ſight of each other, his Lords perſwaded him it was now time to fight, and not to put to Execution; and ſo the L. *Strange* eſcaped. The Earl of *Richmond* likewiſe ſent to the L. *Stanly*, to repair preſently to him; but he ſent word, he muſt expect no aid from him till the Battles were joined; and therefore adviſed him with all poſſible ſpeed to give the onſet; which Anſwer ſomewhat ſtaggered the Earl, becauſe his number did but a little exceed one half of the Kings; yet to make the beſt ſhew he could, by the Advice of his Council of War, he made the Front of his Army thin and broad, of which the Earl of *Oxford* had the leading, the Earl himſelf leading the Battle. Soon after the Fight began, and the Arrows being ſpent on both ſides, they came to hand-ſtroaks; and juſt then came in the Lord *Stanly* to the Earls Aſſiſtance. While they were thus contending, K. *Richard* was informed, that the Earl of *Richmond* with a ſmall number was not far off, and thereupon being of an invincible Courage, whereof he was now to give the laſt proof, he made toward him, and gave ſuch a furious Aſſault, that firſt with his own hands he ſlew Sir *William Brandon*, who bore the Earls Standard; next he unhorſt and overthrew Sir *John Chyney*, a ſtout Man at Arms; and then aſſaulted the Earl of *Richmond* himſelf, who unexpectedly, for all the King's fury, held him off at the Lances point till Sir *Wm. Stanly* came in with 3000 freſh men, and then oppreſt with multitude, K. *Richard* was there ſlain. It is ſaid, that when the

Battle

Battle was near loſt, a ſwift Horſe was brought him, with which he might have ſaved himſelf by flight; but *Rich.* out of his undaunted Courage refuſed it, ſaying, *He would that day make an end of all Battles, or elſe loſe his Life.* In this Battle *Henry* E. of *Northumberland*, who led King *Richard*'s Rear, never ſtruck ſtroke, as likewiſe many others who followed K. *Richard* more for fear than love; and ſo he who had deceived many, was at this time deceived by many; which was not unforeſeen by ſome, who cauſed a Rhime to be ſet upon the Duke of *Norfolk*'s Tent, the night before the Fight, which was this:

Jack *of* Norfolk *be not too bold*;
For Dickon *thy Maſter is bought and ſold.*

Yet notwithſtanding this warning, this noble Duke continued firm to K. *Richard*, and loſt his Life in his quarrel. The whole number ſlain in this Battle on K. *Richard*'s ſide was about 1000 Perſons. Sir *W. Catesby*, one of the chief Counſellors of K. *Richard*, with divers others, were two days after beheaded at *Leiceſter*. This Battle was fought *Aug.* 20. 1485. continuing a little above two hours. The Earl Knighted ſeveral Perſons in the Field; and then kneeling down, he rendred hearty Thanks to Almighty *God* for the Victory he had obtained, and commanded all the wounded men to be cured; whereat the People rejoycing, clapt their hands, and cried K. *Henry*, K. *Henry*; of which joy Sir *W. Stanly* taking opportunity, he took the Crown of K. *Richard*, which was found among the Spoyls in the Field, and ſet it on the Earls Head, as though he had been elected King by the voice of the People. The Body of K. *Richard*, after he was ſlain, was ſtript and left naked to the very Skin, not ſo much as a Rag being left about him to cover his nakedneſs; and being taken up, was truſſed behind a Purſivant at Arms, his Head and Arms hanging on one ſide the Horſe, and his Legs on the other: Thus all beſmeared with Blood and Dirt, he was brought to the *Gray-Friars* Church in *Leiceſter*, and there for ſome time lay a miſerable ſpectacle; and afterward, with ſmall Funeral Pomp,

was

was there buried. But K. *Henry* 7. afterward cauſed a Tomb to be ſet over the Place, with his Picture in Alabaſter, which at the Suppreſſion of that Monaſtry, was utterly defaced, ſince when his Grave over-grown with Nettles and Weeds, is not to be found; only the Stone Cheſt wherein his Corps lay, is now made a drinking Trough for Horſes at a common Inn in *Leiceſter*, and retaineth only the Memory of this Monarchs Greatneſs: But his Body is reported to have been carried out of the City, and contemptuouſly laid under the end of *Bow-Bridge* near the Town. It is likewiſe ſaid, That upon this Bridg there ſtood a ſtone of ſome height, againſt which, King *Richard* as he paſſed toward *Boſworth*, by chance ſtruck his Spur, which a Witch or Wiſe Woman obſerving, ſhe ſhould ſay; *That where his Spur ſtruck, his Head ſhould be broken*; as they ſay it was, when he was brought back dead. He lived 37 years, and reigned two years and two months. It is memorable, that this Sir *William Stanly*, who ſo ſeaſonably ſaved K. *Henries* Life, and ſet the Crown on his Head, was about 11 years after upon pretence of ſome dangerous words, beheaded at *Tower-hill* by order of the ſame King *Henry*.

Mr. *Wanly* writes, That in St. *Martins* Church in *Leiceſter*, there is this very remarkable Epitaph to be ſeen: *Here lies the Body of* John Heyrick *of this Pariſh, who died* 1589. *aged* 76 *years, who lived with his Wife* Mary *in one Houſe full* 62 *years, and had iſſue by her* 5 *Sons, and* 7 *Daughters; and in all that time never buried Man, Woman, nor Child, though they were ſometimes* 20 *in Houſhold. The ſaid* Mary *lived to* 97 *years, and died* 1611. *She did ſee before her departure, of her Children, and Childrens Children, and their Children to the number of* 142. *Matthew Paris* relates of a Maid in *Leiceſterſhire*, who being exactly watched, was found in ſeven years together, neither to eat nor drink, but only that on *Sundays* ſhe Received the Sacrament; and yet continued fat, and in good liking. Which if true, we may well believe, that in the Reſurrection our Life may be maintained without Meat or Drink. About *Lutterworth* in *Leiceſterſhire*, a Miller had murdered one in his

Mill,

Mill, and privately buried him in a ground hard by. This Miller removed into another Country, and there lived a long ſpace; till at laſt, guided by the Providence of *God* for the manifeſtation of his Juſtice, he returned unto that Place to viſit ſome of his Friends; while he was there, the Miller who now had the Mill, had occaſion to dig deep in that very place, where he found the Carkaſs of a Man: This known, it pleaſed *God* to put it into their Hearts to remember a Neighbour of theirs, who 20 years before was ſuddenly miſſed, and ſince that time not heard of; and bethinking themſelves who was then Miller of that Mill, behold he was ready in Town, not having been there for many years before: this Man was ſuſpected, & thereupon examined, & without much ado confeſſed the Fact, & was accordingly executed for the ſame. In 1660. *Sep.* 3. near *Worthington* in this County, there happened a dreadful Whirl-Wind, which tore up a great Tree by the Roots, caſting it four or five yards from the place, rent off the great Limbs of an Apple-Tree, and threw down a Houſe in the Street; the Chappel was much ſhaken, and the Chancel in danger of falling. Then it paſſed on with great force and noiſe to *Worthington* Hall, where it over-turned five Bay of Barn-building, and a Gate-houſe; it blew down a Stack of Chimnies, and hurried a Man into the Garden, who by catching hold of a Tree, ſtayed himſelf. At another Town, it rent a Houſe, where a Woman and three Children were miraculouſly preſerved; to which it brought a great Log of Wood, no body knew from whence: It carried away a Hive of Bees, and a load of Thorns, which could not be heard of and turned up 20 Load of Wood by the roots. This Whirl-wind ran about three miles in length, and not above 20 yards in breadth. Some ſaid. there were flames of fire ſeen in it. Upon the 24. of *January* following, between ſix and ſeven a clock at night there was a very great Earthquake in moſt parts of *Leiceſterſhire*, which came at firſt like a noiſe in the Air, at great diſtance; it ſhook the Houſes very much, and in ſome places Men could hardly ſtand without holding; the

the continuance thereof was about a quarter of an hour. Near *Lutterworth* is a Spring ſo cold, that in a ſhort time it turneth ſtraw and ſticks into ſtone. *John Wickliff* was ſometime Parſon of *Lutterworth* Church a man of ſingular and polite Wit, and much converſant in the Scripture; his bones were afterward taken up and burnt by the Papiſts. Sir *Robert Belknap*, Lord chief Juſtice of the Common-Pleas in K. *Richard* 2. time, was of this County, and that K. having a deſign to deſtroy certain Lords, ſent for the Judges to *Nottingham*, where the Kings many queſtions were in fine reſolved into this, *Whether he might by his Regal Power revoke what was acted in Parliament?* To this all the Judges, Sir *William Skipwith* alone excepted, anſwered Affirmatively, and ſubſcribed it, though this *Belknap* did it unwillingly, as foreſeeing the danger, and putting to his Seal, ſaid theſe words; *There wants nothing now but an Hurdle, an Horſe, and an Halter, to carry me where I may ſuffer the Death I deſerve; for if I had not done this, I ſhould have dyed for it; and becauſe I have done it, I deſerve Death for betraying the Lords.* Yet it had been more for his credit, to have adventured Martyrdom in defence of the Laws, than to hazard the Death of a Malefactor in the breach thereof: But Judges are but Men, and moſt Men deſire to decline that danger which they think neareſt to them. But he and the other Judges were condemned for High-Treaſon in the next *Wonder-working-Parliament*, and hardly had eſcaped death, if the Queen had not earneſtly interceded for them.

The County of *Leiceſter* is divided into ſix Hundreds, wherein are 200 Pariſh-Churches, and twelve Market Towns. It is in the Dioceſs of *Lincoln*, and gives the Title of Earl to *Robert* Lord *Sydney*.

LINCOLNSHIRE hath *Yorkſhire* on the North, the *German* Ocean on the Eaſt, *Cambridge* and *Northampton* Shires on the South, and *Leiceſterſhire* on the Weſt. It abounds in Fiſh, Fowl, Corn, Cattle, and Flax. *Lincoln* is the chief Place, well inhabited and frequented. It ſtands upon the ſide of a Hill, where the River *Witham*

tham bends his course Eastward, and being divided into three small Channels, watereth the lower part of the City; in the highest Part thereof, is the Cathedral, a stately Structure, being built throughout with singular and rare Workmanship, especially the West end; it is very antient, and had 50 Parish-Churches in it, whereof at this day only 15 remain besides the *Minster*. In the year 1180. a great Earthquake overthrew many Buildings, amongst which the Cathedral-Church of *Lincoln* was rent in pieces by it. About this time the Bishoprick of *Lincoln* was so long void, that a certain Hermit of *Tame* prophecied, there should be no more Bishops of *Lincoln*; but he proved an untrue Prophet, for after 16 years vacancy, *Geffery* the Kings Bastard Son was preferred thereunto; of whom it was said, *That he was more skilful in fleecing than feeding his Flock*. This Gallant Bishop would usually in discourse protest, *By the Honour of his Father*; but one of the Kings Chaplains told him, *Pray Sir, remember sometimes the honesty of your Mother, as well as the Royalty of your Father*. He used to put in his Episcopal Seal, *The Seal of* Geffery *Son of the K. of* England. A poor Country Husbandman coming to *Robert Grostead*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, challenged Kindred of him, and thereupon desired him to prefer him to such an Office, which he was very unfit for: *Cousin*, said the Bishop, *If your Cart be broken, I will mend it; if your Plough be old, I will give you a new one, or Seed to sow your Land; but a Husbandman I found you, and a Husbandman I will leave you.* In 1537. King *Henry* the 8*th*. by Advice of the L. *Cromwel*, sent abroad Injunctions, whereby the People were permitted to read the Bible, and to have the *Lord*'s-*Prayer*, the Creed, the Ten Commandments, and all the Articles of the Christian Faith in *English*, to be taught by all Parsons and Curates to their Parishioners; which so inraged the stupid Papists, that in *Lincolnshire* Twenty Thousand of them assembled together, against whom the King himself went in Person, who by perswasion winning their chief Leaders, brought the rest upon pardon;

to

to ſubmit themſelves: But when he had himſelf done the work of Mercy, he afterward ſent the Duke of *Suffolk*, Sir *John Ruſſel*, and others to do the work of Juſtice, who cauſed *Nicholas Melton*, and a Monk who called himſelf Captain *Cobler*, with 13 other Ring-leaders of the Sedition, to be apprehended, and moſt of them executed. In 1564. a monſtrous Fiſh was driven on the Shoar at *Grimesby* in this County, being 19 yards in length, his tail was 15 foot broad, and ſix yards between his Eyes, 15 Men ſtood upright in his Mouth to get the Oyl.

Job Hartop was born at *Bourn* in this County, and went in 1568. with Sir *John Hawkins* his General, to make Diſcoveries in *New Spain*. He was a Gunner in one of Queen *Elizabeth*'s Ships, called the *Jeſus* of *Lubeck*; long and dangerous was his Voyage, eight of his Men being killed at *Cape Verd*, and the General himſelf wounded with poyſoned Arrows, but was cured by a Negro, who drew out the Poyſon with a Clove of Garlick. He firſt writ of that ſtrange Tree, which may be termed, *The Tree of Food*, affording a Liquor which is both meat and drink; *The Tree of Rayment*, yielding Needles wherewith, and Thred whereof Mantles are made; *The Tree of Harbour*, Tiles to cover Houſes, being made out of the ſolid parts thereof, ſo that it beareth a ſelf-ſufficiency for Mans maintenance. *Job* was his Name, and Patience was with him; ſo that he may paſs for a Confeſſor of this County; for being with ſome others by his General left on land for want of Proviſions, after many miſeries they came to *Mexico*. He continued a Priſoner twenty three years; that is, two years at *Mexico*, one year in the *Contractation-Houſe* in *Sevil*, another in the *Spaniſh-Inquiſition* in *Triana*, twelve years a Gally Slave, four years with the Croſs of St. *Andrews* at his back in the *Everlaſting Priſon*, and three years a Drudge to *Hernando de Soria*; to ſo high a ſum did the Inventory of his Sufferings amount. So much of his Patience; now ſee the end the *Lord* made with him: Whilſt inſlaved to the aforeſaid *Hernando*, he was ſent to Sea in a *Flemiſh* Veſſel, which was afterward taken by an *Engliſh* Ship, and ſo he was ſafely landed at *Plymouth Dec.* 2. 1590. And died ſoon after. Sir *William*

Mounſon was extracted out of an Antient Family in this Shire, and was from his Youth bred in Sea-Service, wherein he attained to great Perfection. Queen *Elizabeth* having cleared *Ireland* of the *Spaniſh* Forces; and deſiring carefully to prevent a Relapſe, altered the Scene of War from *Ireland* to *Spain*, from defending to invading; and Sir *Richard Leviſon* being Admiral, and *Mounſon* Vice-Admiral, they in 1602. went to *Portugal*, where without drawing a Sword they quite killed Trading on thoſe Coaſts, no Ships daring to go in or out of their Harbours; there they had Intelligence of a vaſt Carract ready to land in *Siſimbria*, which was of 1600 Tun, richly laden out of the *Eaſt-Indies*, & reſolved to aſſault it, tho it ſeemed placed in an invincible poſture; of it ſelf it was a Gyant in compariſon of our Pigmy Ships, aud had in her 300 *Spaniſh* Gentlemen. The Marquels *De Sancta Cruce* lay hard by with 13 Ships, and all were ſecured under the Command of a ſtrong and well fortified Caſtle: But nothing is impoſſible to the *Engliſh* Valour, and *God*'s Bleſſing thereon. After an hot diſpute, which laſted for ſome hours, with the invincible arguments of Fire & Sword, the Carract was conquered, the wealth taken therein amounting to the value of ten hundred thouſand Crowns of *Portugal* Account. But though the Goods gotten therein might be valued, the Good gotten thereby was ineſtimable; for ever after the *Spaniards* beheld the *Engliſh* with admiring Eyes, and quitted the thoughts of *Invaſion*. This worthy Knight died about the midſt of the Reign of King *James*.

In 1614. Such great Inundations of Water happened in *Lincolnſhire*, and the Parts adjacent, that the Sea entred 12 Miles into the Land. I have a Letter by me, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, dated *July* 7. 1606. written by one Mr. *Bovy*, to a Miniſter in *London*, where he thus writes: 'Touching News, you ſhall underſtand, That Mr. *Sher-*
'*wood* hath received a Letter from Mr. *Arthur Hilder-*
'*ſham*, which containeth this following Narrative:
'That at *Brampton* in the Pariſh of *Torkſey*, near *Gainſ-*
'*borough* in *Lincolnſhire*, an Aſh-Tree ſhaketh both in the
'Body and Boughs thereof, and there proceeds from

' thence ſighs and groans, like thoſe of a Man troubled ' in his ſleep, as if it felt ſome ſenſible torment. Many ' have climbed to the top thereof, where they heard the ' groans more plainly than they could below. One a- ' mong the reſt being atop, ſpoke to the Tree; but pre- ' ſently came down much aſtoniſhed, and lay groveling ' on the Earth ſpeechleſs for 3 hours, and then reviving, ' ſaid, *Brampton, Brampton*, thou art much bound to pray. The Author of this News is one Mr. *Vaughan*, a Miniſter, who was there preſent, and heard and ſaw theſe Paſſages, and told Mr. *Hilderſham* of it. The Earl of *Lincoln* cauſed one of the Arms of the Aſh to be lopped off, and a hole to be bored into the Body, and then was the ſound or hollow voice heard more audibly than before; but in a kind of Speech which they could not comprehend nor underſtand.

In 1666. *Oct.* 13. there was an extraordinary and dreadful Storm of Thunder in *Lincolnſhire*, accompanied with Hail-ſtones much bigger than Pidgeons, and ſome as large as Pullets Eggs: Immediately after there followed a terrible ſtorm of Tempeſt, attended with a very unuſual Noiſe, and with ſuch violence, that at *Welborn* it threw moſt of the Houſes to the ground, brake down ſome, and tore up other Trees by the Roots, ſcattering abroad much Corn and Hay; but, by Divine Providence, only one Boy was killed in that Town. It went thence to *Willingore*, the next Town, overthrowing ſome Houſes, and killing 2 Children with the fall. It fell ſo violently on the Church of the next Town to this, that it preſently daſhed the Spire-Steeple to pieces, and rent the Stone and Timber-work of the Church ſo violently, that but a little of the Wall, and only the Body of the Steeple was left ſtanding. It threw down many Houſes, Trees, and out-houſes in this Town, as well as in two others far diſtant. It was obſerved to move only in a Channel or ſmall breadth, and if it had been conſiderably broader, could not but have ruined a great part of the Country. To ſome that ſaw it at a diſtance before it came near them, it had the Appearance

of

of Fire, and was by ſome obſerved to move in a kind of Circle, though at the ſame time it kept its general courſe along. It paſſed alſo through *Nottinghamſhire*; ſome of the Hail-ſtones being meaſured, were 9 Inches about. This Whirl-wind extended above 60 Yards in breadth. In the Forreſt of *Sherwood* it broke down and overthrew at leaſt 1000 Trees. It brake one ſhort off in the Body, which was three Foot in diameter. It overthrew divers Wind-Mills, ſome Boats in the River, and in one Town conſiſting of 50 Houſes it left, but 7 ſtanding. The ſame Evening over *Derby* Town, and ſome other Places, there appeared a fiery Sword hanging in the Air over them. The *Thurſday* after in the Evening there were ſtrange Fires ſeen hanging over *Nottingham* Town, inſomuch that ſome of the Inhabitants coming homeward from a Country-Market, thought the Town to be on Fire in three ſeveral places. Theſe Informations, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, I had from Eye-Witneſſes worthy of Credit.

About *April* 26. 1661. at *Spalding*, *Bourne*, and ſeveral other Places in *Lincolnſhire*, it rained Wheat, ſome grains whereof were very thin and hollow, but others of a more firm ſubſtance, and would grind into fine flower, ſeveral Pecks of it were taken up out of Church Leads, and other Honſes that were leaded: Several Inhabitants who were Eye-Witneſſes brought up a conſiderable quantity to *London*.

There is a Proverb in this Country, *As mad as the baiting Bull of* Stamford; the Original whereof was thus occaſioned: *William* Earl of *Warren*, Lord of this Town in the time of King *John*, ſtanding upon the Caſtle-Walls of *Stamford*, ſaw two Bulls fighting for a Cow in the Meadow, till all the Butchers Dogs great and ſmall purſued one of the Bulls (being mad with noiſe and multitude) quite through the Town. This ſight ſo pleaſed the Earl, that he gave all thoſe Fields called the *Caſtle-Meadows*, where firſt the *Bull-duel* began, for a Common to the Butchers of the Town, after the firſt graſs was eaten, upon condition they find a Mad Bull, the day ſix week before *Chriſtmas-day*, for the continuance of the Spors every year. Some think that the Men muſt be as mad as

the Bull, who can take delight in ſo dangerous a paſtime, whereby *God*'s Providence more than Mans care is to be obſerved, that no more miſchief is done.

Sir *William Huſſee* was born in this County, he was Lord Chief Juſtice in the Reign of K. *Edward* 4. and lived till the time of K. *Henry* 7.. In the firſt Parliament of whoſe Reign, it happened that many Members were returned, who being formerly his Friends, were attainted by Crookbackt *Richard*, and thereby diſabled to ſit in Parliament; it being incongruous in the higheſt degree, that they ſhould make Laws for others, who were themſelves outlawed: K. *Henry* much concerned hereat, remitted the Caſe to the Judges; who all agreed with Sir *Wm. Huſſee* upon this grave and ſafe Opinion, mixed with Law and Convenience; *That the Knights and Burgeſſes attainted by courſe of Law, ſhould forbear to come into the Houſe till a Law were paſt for reverſing their Attainders*, which was done accordingly: When at the ſame time it was moved incidentally, what ſhould be done for the King himſelf, who likewiſe was attainted; the reſt unanimouſly agreed with Sir *W. Huſſee*, *That the Crown takes away all defects and ſtops in Blood, and that by the Aſſumption thereof the Fountain was cleared from all Attainders and Corruptions.* He died in the 10th. of *Henry* 7. *Peregrine Bertie* Lord *Willoughby*, was a very valiant Gentleman, as appears by his Atchievements both in *France*, and the *Netherlands*, in the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*; he could not brook the Flatteries of the Court, and was wont to ſay, *He was none of thoſe little Animals, who could creep on the Ground.* The Camp was his proper Element, being a great Souldier, and having a ſuitable Magnanimity. When one ſent him an inſulting Challenge whilſt he lay ſick of the Gout, he returned this Anſwer; *That although he was lame of his Hands and Feet, yet he would meet him with a piece of a Rapier in his Teeth.* He once in a Battle took a *Spaniſh*-Gennet managed for the War, which was intended for a Preſent to the King of *Spain*, and was deſired by a Trumpeter from the General to reſtore it, offering this Lord a Thouſand Pound down for him, or an

Hundred

The Horrid Murther of K. EDWARD 2. Pa. 78.

The Dreadfull Tempest in Devonshire Pa. 55.

Hundred a Year during his Life, which he pleased; the Lord returned answer, *That had it been any Commander he freely would have sent him back, but being but an Horse he loved him as well as the King of* Spain *himself, and would keep him.* This Lord dyed 1601. and lies buried under a stately Monument at *Eresby* in this County.

The County of *Lincoln* hath three Divisions, wherein are 30 Hundreds, and hath in it 35 Market Towns, 630 Parish Churches, and is in the Diocese of *Lincoln*; It elects 12 Parliament men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Edward* Lord *Clinton*, as *Stamford* doth to *Henry* Lord *Gray*. *Holland* to *Edw.* L. *Rich*; *Lindsey* to *Rob.* L. *Berty*; and *Bullingbrook* to *Rich.* L. *Boyl*.

MIDDLESEX hath *Hartfordshire* on the North, *Buckinghamshire* on the West, *Essex* parted with the Ley on the East, *Kent* and *Surrey* severed by the *Thames* on the South; The Air is generally very healthful, especially about *Highgate*, where the expert Inhabitants report, *That divers who have been long visited with sickness not curable by Physick, have in short time recovered by that sweet salutary Air*. The Soil is very fruitful, pleasantly beautified on all sides with sumptuous Houses and pretty Towns: *Harrow Hill* is the highest in all this County, under which there lie a long way together Southward exceeding rich aud fruitful Fields, especially about *Heston* a small Village, which yieldeth such fine flower for Manchet, that the Kings Bread was formerly made thereof, and therefore Q. *Eliz.* received no Composition Money from the Villages thereabout, but took her Wheat in kind for her own Pastry and Bakehouse. *Hampton Court*, a Royal Pallace, and the nearest of all the Kings Houses, is in this Shire; it is a Work of admirable magnificence, a City rather in shew than the Pallace of a Prince; for stately Port and gorgeous Building, saith *Weaver*, not inferior to any in *Europe*: It was built out of the ground by that Pompous Prelate Cardinal *Woolsey* in ostentation of his Riches, one so magnificent in his expences, that whosoever considers his *House-building*, would admire that he had any thing for his *House-keeping*

or *Houſe-furniſhing:* He beſtowed this on K. *Hen.* 8. who for the greater grace thereof erected it to be an honour, Princes having Power to confer dignities on Houſes as well as Perſons: The King increaſed and enlarged it, ſo that it now containeth 5 very large inner Courts, incompaſſed with fair buildings of curious Workmanſhip. Now whereas other Royal Palaces found their fatal Period, as *Holdenby, Oatlands, Richmond, Theobalds, Hampton Court* had the happineſs to continue in its former Eſtate, of which one thus writes;

I envy not its happy Lot, but rather thereat wonder,
There's ſuch a rout our Land throughout of Palaces by (plunder.

Oſterly-Houſe muſt not be forgotten, built in a Park by ſir *Thomas Greham*, who here magnificently entertained and lodged Q. *Elizabeth*; Her Majeſty found fault with the Court of this Houſe as too great, affirming, *that it would appear more handſome if divided by a Wall in the middle*; What doth Sir *Thomas* (Money commanding all things) but in the night time ſends for Workmen from *London*, who ſo ſpeedily and ſilently apply their buſineſs, that the next morning diſcovered that court double which the night had left ſingle before; it is queſtionable whether the Queen next day were more contented with the conformity to her fancy, or more pleaſed with the ſurpriſe and ſudden performance thereof; whilſt the Courtiers diſported themſelves with their ſeveral expreſſions, ſome avowing it was no wonder he could ſo ſoon *change a building*, who could *build a Change:* Others reflecting on ſome known differences in this Knt's Family, affirmed, *That any houſe is eaſier divided than united. Edward* the 5. ſole ſurviving Son of K. *Hen.* 8. and *Jane* his Wife, was born at *Hampton Court* in this County 1537. He ſucceeded his Father in this Kingdom, and was moſt eminent in his Generation, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, ſeeing the Kings of *England* fall under a five-fold Diviſion, 1. *Viſibly vicious*, given over to diſſoluteneſs and debauchery, as K. *Edward* the Second. 2. *Rather free from Vice than fraught*

fraught with Virtue, as King *Henry* the Third. 3. *Thoſe in whom Vices and Virtues were ſo equally matched, as it was hard to decide which got the maſtery*, as in King *Henry* 8. 4. *Whoſe good qualities beat their bad ones quite out of diſtance of competition*, as K. *Edward* 1. 5. *Whoſe Virtues were ſo reſplendent, no faults* (humane frailties excepted) *appeared in them*, as in this K. *Edward*; He died *July* 5. 1553. and pity it is that he who deſerved the beſt, ſhould have no Monument erected to his memory. *Smithfield* in *London* being *Bonners* Shambles, and the Bonfire General of *England*, no wonder if ſome ſparks thereof were driven into the Neighbourhood, as *Barnet*, *Iſlington*, and *Stratford*, *Bow*, where more than twenty Perſons were Martyred, as in Mr. *Fox* it doth appear: nor muſt we forget Mr. *John Denly* burnt at *Uxbridge*, who began to ſing a Pſalm at the ſtake, and Dr. *Story* there preſent, cauſed a Faggot to be hurled in his face, which ſo hurt him, that he bled therewith; however we may believe that this Martyrs Song made good melody in the ears of the God of Heaven.

The laſt pitcht Battle in *England* between the two Houſes of *Lancaſter* and *York*, was fought at *Barnet*, 1472. by K. *Edward* 4. who hearing that the Earl of *Warwick*, on the behalf of K. *Henry* the 6. was with his Army incamped on a Heath near *Barnet*, he marched toward them upon *April* 13. being *Eaſter Eve*, and came that evening from *London* thither, where he would not ſuffer a man of his Army to ſtay in the Town, but commanded them all to the Field, and lodged with his Army nearer to the Enemy than he was aware, by reaſon of a thick miſt, raiſed as ſome ſay, by Friar *Bongey* the Conjurer, which made it ſo dark, that it could not well be obſerved where they were incamped; In taking his ground he cauſed his People to keep as much ſilence as was poſſible, thereby to keep the Enemy from knowing of their approach, great Artillery they had on both parts, but *Warwick* had more than K. *Edward*, and therefore in the night time they ſhot continually at the Kings Army, but did little hurt, becauſe they overſhot

them as lying nearer than was conceived; on *Eaſter* day early in the morning both Armies are ordered for Battle; the Earl of *Warwick* appointed the command of his Right Wing, which conſiſted of Horſe to his Brother the Marqueſs *Montacute*, and the Earl of *Oxford*; the left Wing likewiſe conſiſting of Horſe, was led by himſelf, and the Duke of *Exeter*, and the main Battle of Bills, and Bows was conducted by the Duke of *Somerſet*; on K. *Edwards* part the Van was commanded by *Richard* D. of *Gloceſter*, the main Battle (in which the unfortunate K. *Henry* was Priſoner) was led by K. *Edward* himſelf, and the L. *Haſtings* brought up the Rear; after exhortations for incouraging their Souldiers, the fight began, which with great valour was maintained for ſix hours without any apparent diſadvantage on either ſide, only *Warwicks* Van ſeemed by the courage of the Earl of *Oxford*, to overmatch King *Edwards*, which made ſome flying toward *London* carry the news, that the Earl of *Warwick* had won the Field, and ſo perhaps he had indeed, but for a ſtrange misfortune which happened to the E. of *Oxford* and his men, for they having a Star with ſtreams on their Liveries, as K. *Edwards* men had the Sun, the Earl of *Warwicks* men by reaſon of the miſt, not well diſtinguiſhing the badges, ſhot at the Earl of *Oxfords* men, who were of their own ſide, whereupon the Earl of *Oxford* cried out, *Treaſon, Treaſon*! and fled with 800 men; at length after great ſlaughter made on both ſides, K. *Edward* having the greater number of men, cauſed a new recruit of freſh Souldiers to come on, whom he had reſerved to that purpoſe, which the Earl of *Warwick* obſerving, being a man of an invincible courage, nothing diſmayed, ruſhed into the midſt of his Enemies, where he adventured ſo far, that amongſt the preſs he was ſtruck down and ſlain; though ſome write, that ſeeing the deſperate condition of his Army, the Earl leapt on his Horſe to fly, and coming to a Wood where was no paſſage, one of K. *Edwards* men came to him and killed him, and ſtript him to his naked skin; The Marqueſs *Montacute* thinking to relieve his Brother,

ther, loſt likewiſe his life, and left the victory to King *Edward*; There were ſlain on both ſides at leaſt Ten Thouſand Men; and hereby King *Edward* again got the Kingdom, and King *Henries* Friends not being afterward able to raiſe any conſiderable power on his behalf, he was ſoon after ſent to the *Tower*, and there murdered by the Duke of *Gloceſter*.

I ſhall not ſpeak any thing in this place concerning London, *as having already publiſhed a book of the ſame price with this, of Hiſtorical Remarks and Obſervations of the ancient and preſent ſtate of* London *and* Weſtminſter, *wherein the moſt conſiderable particulars relating thereto for ſeveral hundred are ſuccinctly diſcovered.*

The County of *Middleſex* is divided into 7 Hundreds, wherein are 4 Market Towns, and 73 Pariſh Churches, beſides thoſe in *London* and *Weſtminſter*; it is in the Dioceſs of *London*, and out of it are elected 8 Parliament Men; For the County 2. *Weſtminſter* 2. *London* 4. and gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Sackvil*, who is alſo Earl of *Dorſet*; as *Arlington* doth that of Earl to *Henry* Lord *Bennet*.

NORFOLK hath the *German* Ocean on the North and Eaſt thereof; *Suffolk* ſevered by the River *Waveny* on the South; *Cambridgſhire* parted by the River *Owſe*, and part of *Lincolnſhire* on the weſt; it is 50 miles Eaſt and Weſt, and 30 North and South; all *England*, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, may be carved out of *Norfolk*, repreſented therein not only to the kind, but the degree thereof, for here are *Fens*, and *Heaths*, and *Light*, and *Deep*, and *Sand*, and *Clay-ground*, and *Meadows*, and *Paſtures*, and *Arable* and *Woody*, and ſometimes *Woodleſs* grounds, ſo that herein is ſufficiency of profit and pleaſure, collectively in this County; it abounds in Corn, Worſteds, Stuffs, Wool, Coals, and Rabbets, who are an Army of *Natural Pioneers*, whence men have learned the *Art of Undermining*, they thrive beſt in barren ground, and grow fatteſt in the hardeſt Froſts, their fleſh is fine and wholſome; if the *Scotiſh* men tax our language as improper, and ſmile at our *Wing of a Rabbet*, let us laugh at

their *Shoulder of a Capon*; great ſtore of Herrings, and very good are caught nigh *Yarmouth*, and vaſt profit raiſed out of them, VVe may conclude the natural Commodities of this County with this memorable paſſage of a modern Author, who writes thus; the Lord *F. W.* aſſured me of a Gentleman in *Norfolk*, who made above Ten Thouſand pound of a piece of ground not 40 yards ſquare, and yet there was neither Mineral nor Mettal in it; he after told me, it was a ſort of fine Clay, for the making of a choice ſort of Earthen ware, which ſome that knew it ſeeing him dig up, diſcovered the value of it, and ſending it into *Holland* received ſo much money for it.

It is recorded that one chief occaſion of the *Danes* invading this Kingdom proceeded from the following Accident; About the year 867. one *Lothbrook* a Nobleman of the Royal Family of *Denmark*, being upon that Shoar, his Hawk in purſuing her game, fell into the Sea, he to recover her, got into a ſmall Cockboat alone, and by a ſudden Tempeſt was driven with his Hawk to the Coaſt of *Norfolk* near *Rodham*, where being ſeized for a Spy, he was ſent to *Edmund* K. of the *Eaſt-Angles*, but having declared his birth and misfortune, the King took affection to him for his skill in Hawking, and his other good parts, and preferred him, but *Berick* the Kings Falconer envying this favour, as they were hunting together in a VVood, privately murdered him, and hid him in a Buſh; *Lothbrook* was ſoon miſſed, and by no inquiry could be found, till it pleaſed God his Dog, which would not forſake his dead Maſters Corps, came fawning to the King ſeveral times, and then went back to the wood, which the King obſerving, at length followed the Hound, who brought him to the place where *Lothbrook* lay; and *Berick* being found guilty of the murder, was ſentenced to be put into *Lothbrooks* Boat without Tackle or Sail, as he arrived here; but behold the Event, the Boat returned to the ſame place in *Denmark*, from whence it had been driven for *Berick*, as it were to be puniſhed for this Murther; here the Boat being

being known. *Berick* was taken, who to free himself from that bloody Fact, added Treason to Murther, affirming, *That King* Edmund *had put* Lothbrook *to death in* Norfolk; In revenge whereof, *Inguar* and *Hubba* the 2 Sons of the murdered *Lothbrook*, being made Generals of a *Danish* Army arrived in *England*, and burnt up the Country, sparing neither Sex, nor Age, and breaking into *Norfolk*, sent this Message to K. *Edmund*, *That* Inguar *the most victorious Prince, dreadful both by Sea and* Land, *having brought divers Countries under his subjection, was now arrived in these parts, where he meant to winter, and requireth thee* Edmund *to be subject, and a vassal to him, to yield up to him thy hid Treasures, and all other the riches of thine Ancestors, and so to reign under him, which if thou refusest to do, he adjudges thee unworthy both of life and Kingdom*; *Edmund* hearing this proud Pagan Message, after advising with his Council, returned this answer; *Go* said he, *and tell thy Lord, that* Edmund *the Christian King for the love of a Temporal life will not submit himself to a Pagan Duke, unless he will resolve to become a Christian*; whereupon *Inguar* and *Hubba*, with their furious *Danes*, pursued the King to *Thetford*, who raising an Army, gave them Battle, but being overpowered by his Enemies, he retired to *Framingham* Castle, where pitying the terrible slaughter of his People, he submitted himself to the *Danes*, but because he would not renounce the Christian Religion, these bloody Heathens beat him with sticks, and whipt him with rods; but he still fervently calling upon the name of *Jesus*, they were so inraged, that binding him to a stake, they with their Arrows shot him to death, and cutting off his head, scornfully threw it into an hedge; But his body was afterward honourably buried at St. *Edmundsbury*, from whence that Town had its name.

At *Walsingham* in this County there was a Chappel built in the year 1601. dedicated to the Virgin *Mary*, and renowned throughout *England* for a Pilgrimage to our Lady *of Walsingham*, and those who did not visit, and present her with offerings, were counted irreligious;

hear the deſcription of *Eraſmus*, an Eye-witneſs, concerning this place; *About four miles from the Sea ſide*, ſaith he, *ſtandeth a Town that lives on nothing elſe almoſt but the reſort of Pilgrims to this place; there is a Colledge of Regular Canons, which hath ſcarce any other Revenues than from the liberality of this Virgin, for the greater oblations are preſerved, but the Mony and other Offerings of ſma'ler value go to the maintenance of the Fryers; the Church is fair and neat, yet the Virgin dwells not therein, that honour* (forſooth) *ſhe hath done to her Son; ſhe hath her Church to her ſelf in the right hand of her Son; neither doth ſhe dwell there for all this, for the building is not yet finiſhed, ſmall light there was in it but by Tapers or Wax-Candles yielding a pleaſant ſmell; and when you come into it, you would ſay it were an heavenly habitation indeed, ſo bright ſhining all over it with precious Stones, and Gold and Silver.* This Chappel with all the Trinkets therein, fell in the general deſtruction of *Popiſh* Monaſteries by K. *Henry* 8. At St. *Bennet in the Holm*, there was a great Abby built by *Canutus* the *Dane*, which was afterward ſo fortified by the Monks with walls and Bulwarks that it ſeemed rather a Caſtle than a Cloyſter, inſomuch that K. *William* the *Conqueror* could not win it by aſſault, till a Monk betrayed it into his hands, upon condition he himſelf ſhould be made Abbot thereof; which was done accordingly; but the King preſently hanged up this new Abbot for a Traitor, and ſo he was juſtly puniſhed for his Treachery. K. *Stephen* had only one Son named *Euſtace*, a Prince of much bloſſoming valour, as being cut off at 18 years of Age, ſome ſay by drowning, and others by a ſtranger Accident, but ſtrange Relations muſt not alwayes be rejected, for though many of them be forged, yet ſome no doubt are true; and who knows but it may be of this kind which ſome writers relate of this Prince, *That being at the Abby of* Bury *in the Dioceſs of* Norwich, *and denyed ſome money he demanded, he preſently in a rage went forth, and ſet the Cornfields belonging to the Abby on fire, but afterward ſitting down to Dinner, at the firſt morſel of bread he put into his mouth, he fell into a fit of madneſs, and in that fit dyed*; certainly the Perſons of Princes

ces are for more obſervation than ordinary People, and as they make Examples, ſo they are ſometimes made Examples.

In the 11th. of K. *Hen.* 2. there was ſo great an Earthquake in *Norfolk*, and ſome other Counties, that it overthrew many who ſtood upon their feet, and made the Bells towl in the Steeples. In his 18th year the Cathedral Church at *Norwich*, with the Houſes thereto belonging, was burnt, and the Monks diſperſed. In the Reign of K. *Richard* 1. a Jew being turned Chriſtian at *Lynn* in *Norfolk*, he was perſecuted by thoſe of his own Nation, and aſſaulted in the ſtreet; who thereupon flying to a Church hard by, was followed thither alſo, and the Church aſſaulted, which the People of the Town ſeeing, in defence of the new Chriſtian they fell upon the Jews, of whom they ſlew a great number, and after pillaged their Houſes; By this Example the Jews were aſſaulted in other places, and vaſt multitudes of them maſſacred, and ſome of them being blocked up in a Caſtle at *York*, cut the Throats of their Wives and Children and caſt them over the Walls on the Chriſtians Heads, and then burnt the Caſtle and themſelves; neither could this Sedition be ſtayed, till the King ſent his Chancellour, the Biſhop of *Ely*, with force of Arms to puniſh the offenders. In the 5th of *Hen.* 5. a great part of the City of *Norwich* was burnt, and all the Houſes of the Friers Preachers, where two of the Friers themſelves were burnt in the flames.

In the 2d of *Edward* 6. 1549 a dangerous Rebellion broke forth in *Norfolk*, about Grievances for *Incloſures*; The Rebels had got one *Ket* a Tanner to be their Leader, who with others encouraged them to pull down Incloſures, and in ſhort time they grew to a Body of 20000, ſo that the Sheriff of *Norfolk* commanding them in the Kings name to depart, or elſe he would proclaim them Traitors, he had been certainly ſlain, had not his horſe been too ſwift for them; they furniſhed themſelves with Arms and Artillery, and for their better ſecurity they fortified themſelves upon *Mouſhold* hill, near

St. *Leonards* hill by *Norwich*, where they carried a face as it were of Juſtice and Religion; for they had one *Conyers* an Idle Fellow for their Chaplain, who morning and evening read ſolemn Prayers to them, alſo Sermons they had often; and as for Juſtice they ordained a Seat of Judgment in an old Tree, whoſe Canopy was the Cope of Heaven; in this Tree ſat the Tanner, as Chancellour and chief Judge, giving out Warrants in the Kings name, and as his Deputy committed many Perſons of Quality to Priſon, he was aſſiſted by two choſen men of every hundred among them, from whom Commiſſions were ſent to bring in to them Powder, Shot, Victuals, and all things neceſſary, and here ſuch as had exceeded their Commiſſion were ordered to be impriſoned, ſo that this Tree was called, *The Oak of Reformation*, whence likewiſe ſome Sermons were delivered to the People, and once by the Reverend Dr. *Parker* which had like to have coſt him his Life; and now beginning to grow to a height, they preſented certain complaints to the King, requiring he would ſend an Herald to give them ſatisfaction; the King, though he took it for a great Indignity to have ſuch baſe Fellows capitulate with him, yet framing himſelf to the time, he returned this anſwer; *That in* October *following he would call a Parliament wherein their Complaints ſhould be heard, and all their Grievances redreſſed, requiring them in the mean time to lay down their Arms and return to their houſes*, and thereupon granting them a general pardon: But this was ſo far from ſatisfying the Seditious, that thereupon they firſt aſſaulted the City of *Norwich*, took it, and made the Mayor attend them as their ſervant, and then returned again to their Station at *Mouſhold*: Soon after the Marquets of *Northampton*, the L. *Sheffeild*, with ſeveral other Lords, 1530 Horſe, and a ſmall Band of *Italians* were ſent againſt them, whom the Seditious ſo ſtoutly oppoſed, that much miſchief was done on both ſides, the L. *Sheffeild* falling with his Horſe into a Ditch, was taken Priſoner, and as he pulled off his Helmet, to make himſelf known, he was ſtruck down dead by a Butcher; ſo

that

that the Marqueſs with his Forces not prevailing, the Earl of *Warwick* was ſent with 6000 Foot, and 1500 Horſe, and many other Perſons of Quality; When the Earl approached the Camp of the Rebels, he ſent a Herald offering them the Kings Pardon if they would diſband, which they were ſo far from accepting, that a lewd Boy turned up his naked Breech toward the Herald, and bid him kiſs it; upon this many skirmiſhes paſſed between the Earl and them, with loſs ſometimes of one ſide, and ſometimes of another, at laſt they came to a Battle, where the Rebels placed in the Front all the Gentlemen they had taken Priſoners, deſigning they ſhould firſt be ſlain, of whom yet very few were hurt, but of the Rebels above 2000 were killed; and now once again the Earl of *Warwick* offered them pardon, but for all their loſſes they continued obſtinate; at laſt the Earl ſent to know if they would entertain their Pardon if he ſhould come in Perſon, and aſſure them of it; this moved them much, and they anſwered, *That they knew him to be ſo honourable, that from himſelf they would embrace it*; whereupon he went to them, and cauſing their Pardon to be read again, he confirmed it by his words ſo effectually, that they all caſt away their Arms, and with one voice cried, *God ſave K.* Edward: The day following *Robert Ket* the Tanner, and Arch-Rebel was taken, and hanged in Chains upon the Caſtle of *Norwich*; and *William Ket* the younger was hanged upon the high Steeple of *Wimondham*, and 9 of the other principal Rebels were hanged upon the *Oak of Reformation*; and thus ended the Sedition in *Norfolk*, the day of the defeat of the Rebels being a long time after obſerved as a Feſtival by the Citizens of *Norwich*, with no leſs joy than the Jews did when they eſcaped the ſword of wicked *Haman*.

In 1578. the 20 of Q. *Elizabeth*, *Mathew Hamond* of *Hitherſet*, 3 miles from *Norwich*, Plow-Wright, for denying Chriſt to be our Saviour, and publiſhing divers other horrible Hereſies, was convented before the Biſhop of *Norwich*, condemned in the conſiſtory, and delivered to the Sheriffs of *Norwich* to be executed; but be-

cauſe

cauſe he had ſpoken ſeditious words againſt the *Queen*, he was condemned to loſe his Ears, which was accordingly executed, and 7 days after he was burnt in the Caſtle Ditch at *Norvvich*. In the 23d. Year, *Aug.* 12. there aroſe a great Tempeſt of Thunder, Lightening, Whirlwind, and Rain, in the County of *Norfolk*, with Hailſtones faſhioned like the Rowels of Spurs, two or three Inches about; it beat the Corn flat to the ground, rent up many great Trees and ſhivered them to pieces; at *Hemming* a Mile from *Worſted*, the VVeſt door of the Church of above 300 pound weight, was lifted off the hooks, and blown over the Font, within a yard of the Chancel; the top of the Church was ript up, and the Lead blown away; five ſheets of Lead were wrapt up together like a Glove, and blown into a Field without the Church-Yard. In her 25th. Year, *Sept.* 17. *John Levvis* for denying the Godhead of Chriſt, and holding other deteſtable Opinions, was burnt at *Norvvich*. The 10th of *October* following at *Caſtor* near *Yarmouth*, a Fiſh was by the force of the Eaſterly winds driven a ſhoar, the length thereof from the Neck to the Tail was 17 yards and one Foot; the Head was great, for the chap of the Jaw was 3 yards and a quarter in length, with Teeth of 3 quarters of a yard in compaſs; it had great Eyes, with 2 great holes over them to ſpout water, her Tail was 14 Foot broad; ſhe was 4 yards and an half in thickneſs from the Back to the Belly. In 1656. *July* 20. being *Lords-day* there was a ſudden Tempeſt in and about *Norvvich*, attended with Thunder and Lightning, the flaſhes whereof were very violent, and the claps of Thunder ſo dreadful, as aſtoniſhed the hearers; about an hour after many ſaw a black cloud like the ſmoak of a Furnace, which did ofttimes caſt forth flames of Fire, after this followed a white cloud, labouring as it were to overtake the other, but the black cloud preſently covering the City, there aroſe a ſudden Whirlwind, which raiſed ſuch a Duſt in the Streets, that one man could not diſcern another, and the clouds ſtill grew thicker, eſpecially in the South-Weſt, out of which there broke forth

with terrible Lightnings and Thunder-claps, accompanied with Hail-ſtones of 5 Inches about, daſhing all the Glaſs-Windows to the Wind ward in pieces. In the Country adjoining, many Corn-fields were deſtroyed; Trees were torn up by the Roots; Rabbets and Birds, yea ſome Sheep, Cows, and Horſes were killed: The Lightning ran upon the Ground, many Houſes being fired by it, and more had been conſumed, had not an extraordinary Shower of Rain quenched them: The Hail-ſtones were not round, but flat pieces of Ice. This Account was ſent, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, from ſeveral credible Perſons upon the Place. And here muſt not be forgotten Sir *Robert Venile*, a Knight of *Norfolk*, who when the *Scots* and *Engliſh* were ready to give Battle, in the Reign of *Edward* the Third, a certain ſtout Champion of great Stature commonly called *Tournboll*, coming out of the *Scots* Army, and challenging any *Engliſh-man* to meet him in a ſingle Combate; this Sir *Robert Venile* accepteth the Challenge, and marching toward the Champion, and meeting by the way a certain black Maſtiff Dog, which waited on the Champion, he ſuddenly with his Sword cut him off at the loins, and afterward did more to the Champion himſelf, cutting his Head off from his Shoulders.

The County of *Norfolk* hath in it the City of *Norwich*, is divided into 31 Hundreds, wherein are 28 Market-Towns, 660 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Norwich*. It elects 12 Parliament-men; and gives the Title of Duke to *Henry* L. *Howard*, as *Yarmouth* doth that of Earl to *Robert* L. *Paſton*.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE hath *Cambridgeſhire* on the Eaſt; *Lincoln* and *Leiceſterſhire* on the North; *Buckinghamſhire* on the South; and *Warwickſhire* on the Weſt: It is a Champion Country, exceeding populous, and well furniſhed with Noblemen, and Gentlemens Houſes, repleniſhed alſo with Towns and Churches, inſomuch as in ſome places there are 20, and in others 30 Steeples with Spires or ſquare Towers within view at once. *Northampton* is the Shire-Town, the Houſes whereof were formerly very fair; but by a dreadful Fire, a great

great part thereof was lately burnt to Aſhes, though ſince for the moſt part nobly re-built; there are ſeven Pariſh Churches within the Walls, whereof that of *All-hallows* is the Chief. At *Boughton* there is a Spring which is conceived to turn Wood into Stone. 'The truth is, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, it doth incruſt any thing 'with Stone; but I have ſeen a Skull brought from 'thence to *Sydney-Colledge* in *Cambridge*, which was can-'died over with Stone within and without; yet ſo as the 'bone remained entire in the middle, as by a breach 'made therein did appear. This Skull was ſent for by 'K. *Charles*, whilſt I was there to ſatisfy his own Curioſi-'ty, and by him ſafely returned again to the Colledge. The River *Nen* runs by the Southſide of *Peterburrough*, in the middle whereof is a Gulph ſo deep, and cold withal, that even in Summer no Swimmer is able to dive to the bottom thereof; yet it is never frozen in Winter, for there is a Spring in it, whence the Water always riſeth and bubleth up; and that keeps it from freezing.

Robert Braybrook, born at a Village in *Northamptonſhire*, was conſecrated Biſhop of *London*, in the 4*th.* of *Richard* 2. 1381. he was after Chancellor of *England*; he died 1404 and was buried under a Marble-Stone in the Chappel of St. *Mary*, in the Cathedral of St. *Paul*, *London*, yet was the Body of this Biſhop lately taken up, and found firm as to Skin, Hair, Joints, Nails, *&c.* for upon that fierce and fatal Fire in *London* 1666. which turned ſo much of St. *Pauls* into rubbiſh, when part of the Floor fell into St. *Faiths*, this dead Perſon was ſhaken out of his Tomb, where he had lain, and ſlept ſo unchanged, as you have heard no leſs than 262 years. His Body was for a great while expoſed to the view of all Perſons, many coming daily to ſee this ſtrange Curioſity. *Elizabeth* Daughter of Sir *Richard Woodvil*, was born at *Grafton* in this County, ſhe was Widdow to Sir *John Gray*, who loſt his Life for the Houſe of *Lancaſter*, and petitioned King *Edward* 4. to take off the Sequeſtration from her jointure. Beauty is a good Solliciter, where Youth is to be the Judge: The King fell enamoured of her, and became

ame a Suitor to her for a Nights Lodging; and being importunate with her therein, ſhe modeſtly told him; *That as ſhe did account her ſelf too mean to be his Wife, ſo ſhe thought her ſelf too worthy to be his Harlot.* The King finding he coûld not prevail by wanton Love, reſolves to marry her, though much to the diſcontent of his Council, and likewiſe of his Mother; who among other reaſons alledged, *That her being a Widdow, might be a ſufficient to reſtrain him.* To whom the King replied, *Whereas you ſay, Madam, that ſhe is a Widdow, and hath already Children; by* God's *bleſſed Lady I am a Batchellor, and have ſome too; and ſo each of us have a proof that none of us is like to be barren.* And he accordingly married her; being the firſt of our Kings, ſince the Conqueſt, that married his own Subject: Yet was his Love divided among three other of his Miſtreſſes, of whom he was wont to ſay; *The one was the faireſt, the other the merrieſt, and the third the Holieſt Harlot in* England, *as being always at her Beads in the Chappel, when he ſent for her to his Bed.* His Queen lived to ſee the Death of her Husband, Murther of her two Sons, Reſtraint of her ſelf, and the reſt of her Children; ſo that ſhe had more Greatneſs than Joy, Height than Happineſs by Marriage. She finiſhed *Queens-Colledge* in *Cambridge*, and died not long after.

At *Fotheringay-Caſtle* in this County, was acted the Tragedy of *Mary* Q. of *Scots*, Mother to K. *James*, in the 29*th*. Year of Q. *Elizabeth*, 1587. This *Mary* was the Daughter, and only lawfull lybegotten Child of *James* 5. and ſucceeded in her Cradle to the Throne: She was promiſed in Marriage to King *Edw.* 6. of *England*; but by the Power of the *Hamiltons*, carried into *France*, and there married to *Francis* 2. King of *France:* About which time Reformation in Religion began to be practiſed in *Scotland*, as well as *England*; for at the Preaching of *John Knox*, and ſome other Miniſters, Images, Altars, and ſuch things were defaced; and it was put further into the Heads of the Nobility, *That it pertained to them of their own Authority to take away Idolatry, and by force reduce the Prince to the Preſcript of Laws.* Whereupon there

was

was preſently bandying of the Lords of *Scotland* againſt the Queen Dowager; and each of them ſent for Aid; ſhe from *France*, and the Lords from *England*: But this was matter for Conſultation; It ſeemed a bad Example for a Prince to give Aid to the Rebellious Subjects of another Prince; on the other ſide, it ſeemed no leſs than Impiety, not to give Aid to *Proteſtants* of the ſame Religion; but moſt of all, it ſeemed meer madneſs to ſuffer Enemies to be ſo near Neighbours, and let the *French* neſtle in *Scotland*, who pretend Title to *England*. Upon ſuch Conſiderations, it was reſolved Queen *Elizabeth* ſhould ſend them Aid, and thereupon an Army of 6000 Foot, and 1200 Horſe were ſent under the Duke of *Norfolk*, and others, who going into *Scotland*, joined with the Lords, where paſſed many light Skirmiſhes, many Batteries, and ſometimes Aſſaults; which growing tedious, ſoon after ended in a Peace between *France* and *England*, upon condition, *That neither the King of* France *nor the Queen of* Scotland *ſhould thenceforth uſe the Arms or Titles of* England *or* Ireland; *and that both the* Engliſh *and* French *ſhould depart out of* Scotland; *and a general Pardon ſhould paſs in Parliament for all that had been Actors in thoſe Stirs.* The Peace was ſcarce concluded, when *Francis* the young K. of *France* died, and left *Mary* Q. of *Scots* a Widdow. Soon after the Houſe of Commons in Parliament humbly moved Queen *Elizabeth* to Marry; who anſwered, *That ſhe was already Married to the Kingdom of* England; *and behold*, ſaith ſhe, *the Pledge of the Covenant with my Husband*; and therewith held out her Finger, and ſhewed the Ring wherewith at her Coronation ſhe gave her ſelf in Wedlock to the Kingdom; *and if*, ſaid ſhe, *I keep my ſelf to this Husband, and take no other yet I doubt not, but* God *will ſend you as good Kings as if they were born of me; for as much as we ſee by daily experience that the Iſſue of the beſt Princes do often degenerate. And for my ſelf, it will be ſufficient, that a Marble-Stone declare, that a Queen having reigned ſuch a time, lived and died a Virgin.* She had indeed many Matches propounded to her; to whom ſhe gave Teſtimonies of her Princely Favour, but never

Pledges

dges of Nuptial Love. About this time the Earl of *Feria*, who had Married the Daughter of Sir *William Dormer*, being denied leave of Queen *Elizabeth* for ſome of his Wives Friends to live in *England*, he grew ſo inraged, that he perſwaded Pope *Pius* 4. to Excommunicate her as an Heretick and Uſurper: But the Pope pretending to great Gentleneſs, writ to her lovingly, *To return to the Unity of the Catholick Church*; and made great offers, if ſhe would hearken to his Counſel, particularly, *That he would recall the Sentence againſt her Mothers Marriage, confirm the Book of Common-Prayer in Engliſh, and permit the Uſe of the Sacrament in both kinds.* But the Queen neither terrified with *Feria*'s Practiſes, nor allured with the Popes great Offers; according to her Motto, *Semper eadem, always the ſame*, perſiſted conſtant in her Reſolution to maintain that Religion, which in her Conſcience ſhe was perſwaded to be moſt agreeable to the Word of *God*, and the Practice of the Primitive Church.

Queen *Mary* after the Death of her Husband went from *France* to *Scotland*, and then ſent Letters to Q. *Elizabeth*, offering readily to enter into a League with her, ſo ſhe might by Authority of Parliament be declared her Succeſſor, which was but her Right. To which Q. *Elizabeth* anſwered, *That though ſhe would no way derogate from her Right; yet ſhe ſhould be loth to endanger her own ſecurity, and as it were to cover her own Eyes with a grave-cloth while ſhe was alive.* The two Queens were indeed both of great Spirits; *Mary* doubting Queen *Elizabeth* meant to fruſtrate her Succeſſion; and *Elizabeth*, leſt the Queen of *Scots* meant to hinder her Succeſſion; which created Jealouſies, and many unkind Paſſages between them, as by the Sequel appears. The Queen of *Scots* having a deſire to Marry again, Queen *Elizabeth* propoſed the Earl of *Leiceſter* to her; but ſhe Married the Lord *Darnly*, Son to the Earl of *Lenox*; and thereupon the next Parliament again move Queen *Elizabeth* to Marry, to declare her Succeſſor to the Crown; ſome of them boldly arguing, *That Princes were bound to deſign a Succeſſor; and that in not doing it, the Queen would ſhew her*

ſelf

self no better than a Parricide, and Destroyer of her Country. The Queen was contented to bear with words spoken in Parliament, which out of it she would never have endured; and commanded 30 of each House to appear before her, to whom she said; *That she knew what danger hangeth over a Princes Head, when a Successor is once declared: She knew that even Children themselves, out of an hasty desire of bearing Rule, had taken up Arms against their own Father; and how could better be expected from Kindred? And therefore, though she had given them leave to debate the matter of Succession, she bid them beware not to be injurious to their Princes patience.* After which they never made any further motion to her. But now the Love between the Queen of *Scots*, and the Lord *Darnly* began to cool; and their unkindness was fomented by one *David Rissio*, an *Italian* Musician, and afterward the Queens Secretary, who had often secret conference with her, when the King might not be admitted: This indignity the Lords about the King made him sensible of, and thereupon his Death was contrived, and he was killed in an outer Chamber next the Queen, she being then with Child, and like by the Affright to have miscarried. The Earl of *Murray*, base Son to K. *James* 5. and base Brother to the Queen, was the chief Instigator of this Murther, of the foulness of which Fact when the King was sensible, he resolved to be revenged upon *Murray*; who having notice thereof, prevented it with causing the like to be done to him; for soon after the King, in a stormy tempestuous night, was strangled in his Bed, and then cast forth into the Garden, & the House immediately blown up with Gunpowder. The rumour of this Murther being spread abroad, common Fame laid it upon *Morton* and *Murray*, and their Confederates: *Morton* and *Murray* lay it upon the Queen. The King thus murthered, the Queen was advised by them to Marry *James* Earl of *Bothwell*, (though he was the Man that had acted the Murther) but upon condition, that above all things respect might be had to her young Son; and that *Bothwell* might be legally quitted both from the Bonds of his former Mar-

riage,

[illegible], and also of the King's Murther: Hereupon it is [illegible]ted, that *Bothwell* should be brought to the Bar, and [illegible] being his Advocate, by the Sentence of the Judg[illegible], he is clearly acquitted; and then by consent of some of the Nobility he is Married to the Queen, being first made Duke of *Orkney*; which bred a Suspicion in many, that the Queen was conscious of the Murther, which was the thing the Confederates aimed at by this Marriage; for they by all means increased the Suspicion, that they might have the better colour against her, and so the very same Men who absolved *Bothwell*, and consented to the Marriage, now take Arms against her, as a Delinquent in both, forcing her Husband to flee, and then seize upon the Queen, whom clad in a very homely Garment, they thrust into Prison in *Lochlevyn*. Queen *Elizabeth* hearing of it, sends Sir *Nicholas Throgmorton* to expostulate the matter with them, who alledged, *The Queen was subject to no Tribunal under Heaven; That no Judge on Earth might call her in question*, &c. They again opposed the peculiar Right of that Kingdom, and used *Buchanans* Argument in his Treasonable Dialogue, *That in extraordinary Cases the People have Power both to create, and to depose their King*. They then perswaded her to resign the Kingdom, which if she refused to do fairly, they threatned to question her openly for her incontinent living, for the Kings Murther, & for Tyranny, so that through fear she resigned her Kingdom to her young Son *James* at that time scarce thirteen Months old, who was five days after Anointed and Crowned King; and she constituted *Murray* Vice-Roy during his Minority. Soon after some of *Bothwells* Servants were executed for the Kings Murther; who cleared the Queen from being concerned in it.

The Queen having been 11 Months Prisoner, afterward made her Escape, and raised Forces, which being unexperienced were soon defeated by *Murray*; whereupon she endeavoured to save her self by flight, and travelled 60 Miles in one day, and contrary to the Advice of her Friends went with a few of her Attendants in a small

ſmall Bark, and landed at *Wickington* in *Cumberland*, ſending Letters to Q. *Elizabeth*, that having made an eſcape from her inſolent and rebellious Subjects, ſhe was now come into *England*, upon certain hope of her approved Clemency; and therefore humbly deſiring that ſhe might be forthwith admitted to her Preſence. Q. *Elizabeth* ſent her Letters of comfort, and promiſed her Aid & Defence according to the equity of her cauſe; but denied her Acceſs, ſince ſhe was held guilty of many crimes; giving command to have her brought to *Carliſle*, as a Place of more Safety. Q. *Mary* then deſired ſhe might depart to ſome other Country; but upon Conſultation, moſt were of opinion to have her detained as One taken by right of War, and not to be diſmiſſed till ſhe had made ſatisfaction for aſſuming the Title of *England*, and for the Death of *Darnly* her Husband, who was born one of the *Queens* Subjects. After this many Conſpiracies were made, to ſet the Queen of *Scots* at Liberty. The Pope ſends out his Bull againſt Q. *Elizabeth*, freeing her Subjects from all Allegiance to her; and the Duke of *Norfolk* is beheaded upon her account. Theſe and many other contrivances and conſpiracies ſeemed very much to indanger the Life of Q. *Elizabeth*, and tended to the Invaſion of *England*: Whereupon, the better to provide for her ſafety, a number of her Subjects, the Earl of *Leiceſter* being the Chief, and others of all ranks and conditions, enter into an *Aſſociation*; wherein they declare, That ſince by Her Majeſties Life, they and all other Her Majeſties Subjects do enjoy ineſtimable Benefit, they do by this Writing make manifeſt their Duty for the ſafety of their Sovereign Lady. They then proceed:

And to that end, we, and every of us, firſt calling to Witneſs the Name of Almighty God, *do voluntarily and moſt willingly bind our ſelves every one of us to the other, jointly and ſeverally in the Band of one firm and Loyal Society; and do hereby vow and promiſe by the Majeſty of Almighty* God, *that with our whole Powers, Bodies, Lives, and Goods, and with our Children and Servants, we, and every of us, will faithfully ſerve, and humbly obey, our ſaid Sovereign L. Q.* Elizabeth *againſt*

...States, Dignities, and Earthly Powers whatsoever; ... as well with our joint and particular Forces, during ... Lives, withstand, offend, and pursue, as well by force of ..., as by all other means of Revenge, all manner of Persons, ... what state soever they shall be, who shall attempt against Her Royal Person, &c. to the utter extermination of them, their Counsellours, Aiders, and Abettors. And if any such wicked Attempt against her most Royal Person shall be taken in hand, and procured, whereby any that have, may, or shall pretend Title to come to this Crown, by the untimely Death of Her Majesty so wickedly procured, (which God for his Mercies sake forbid) may be avenged, we do not only bind our selves jointly and severally never to allow, accept or favour any such pretended Successor, by whom, or for whom, any such detestable Act shall be attempted or committed, as unworthy of all Government in any Christian Realm or Common-Wealth. And do also further vow and protest, as we are most bound, and that in the Presence of the Eternal and Everlasting God, to prosecute such Person and Persons to death, with our joint or particular Forces, and to take the utmost revenge upon them, that by any means we, or any of us can devise and do, or cause to be devised and done, for their utter overthrow and extirpation. And to the better Corroboration of this our Loyal Band and Association, we do also testifie by this Writing, that we do confirm the Contents hereof by our Oaths, corporally taken upon the Holy Evangelists, with this express condition, that no one of us shall for any respect of Persons, or Causes, for fear, or reward, separate our selves from this Association, or fail in the Prosecution thereof during our Lives, upon pain of being by the rest of us prosecuted, and suppreſt as perjured Persons, and as publick Enemies to God, our Queen, and to our Native Country. To which Punishment and Pains we do voluntarily submit our selves, and every of us without benefit of any colour or pretence. In Witness of all which Premises to be inviolably kept, we do to this Writing put our Hands and Seals, and shall be most ready to accept and admit any others hereafter into this Society and Association.

The Queen of *Scots* presently apprehending that this *Association* was entred into for her destruction, offers to enter into it her self, if permitted; to which Q. *Elizabeth* seemed

ſeemed inclining; but it was alledged by her
That the Queen could be no longer in ſafety, if the
were ſet at liberty; that the Reformed Religion lay a
if Papiſts were admitted into the Court-Walls, &c.
ſucceeding Parliament this *Aſſociation* was univerſally
proved, and enacted in this form; *That* 24 *or more of the Queens Privy-Council, and Peers of the Realm, ſhould be ſelected and authorized under the great Seal of* England, *to make enquiry of all ſuch Perſons as ſhall attempt to invade the Kingdom, or raiſe rebellion, or ſhall attempt any thing elſe againſt the Q's Perſon for whomſoever, & by whomſoever that layeth any claim to the Crown of* Engl. *and that Perſon for whom and by whom they ſhall attempt any ſuch thing, ſhall be altogether incapable of the Crown,* &c. The next year a dangerous conſpiracy was diſcovered againſt the Queen; for one *John* ..*twage*, by the ſeducement of Dr. *Gifford*, was perſwaded it was meritorious to take away the Lives of Princes excommunicate, who thereupon vowed to kill Q. *Elizabeth*: But to make the Queen and her Council ſecure, at the ſame time they writ a Book, exhorting the Papiſts in *England* to attempt nothing againſt their Prince, and to uſe only the Chriſtian Weapons, *Tears, Prayers, Watching*, and *Faſting*. *Babington*, and ſeveral other Gentlemen were in this Plot, to whom ſhe ſhewed Letters which ſhe received from the Q. of *Scots*, and her Cloſets being broke open, a number of Letters were found from Foreign Parts, offering her their Service, and 60 Alphabets of private Characters. Fourteen of the Conſpirators were executed for this Treaſon, and great Conſultations were held about the Q. of *Scots*, and at laſt it was concluded to proceed againſt her by the aforementioned Law. Whereupon divers Lords are authorized by the Queens Letters to enquire, and by vertue of that Law, to paſs Sentence againſt all ſuch as raiſed Rebellion, invaded the Kingdom, or attempted any violence againſt the Queen, who *Oct.* 11. went to *Fotheringay*-Caſtle where Q. *Mary* was priſoner, and the next day the Queens Letters were delivered her, which having with a ſettled Countenance read, ſhe ſaid; *It ſeems*

ſtrange

me, that the Queen ſhould lay her Command upon me my Hand at the Bar, as though I were a Subject, am an abſolute Queen, no leſs than her ſelf; and eſpecially ſhould be tryed by the Engliſh Laws. It was at laſt nly told her by the Chancellor and Treaſurer, *That if ſhe refuſed to anſwer to ſuch Crimes as ſhould be objected, they would then proceed againſt her though ſhe were abſent.*

Being brought at laſt with much ado to conſent, the Commiſſioners came together in the Preſence-Chamber, and the Queen of *Scots* being come, the Chancellor ſpake thus to her; *That the Queen had appointed theſe Commiſſioners to hear what ſhe could anſwer to the Crimes laid to her Charge; aſſuring her that nothing would be cauſe of more Joy to the Queen, than to hear that ſhe had proved her ſelf innocent.* Upon which ſhe riſing up, ſaid, *That although being an abſolute Prince, ſhe could not be compelled to appear before them, yet to manifeſt her Innocence, ſhe was now content to appear.* Then one of the Commiſſioners opened her Crimes, ſhewing that by the Confeſſions of *Babington*, *Ballard*, *Savage*, and alſo *Nave* and *Curle* her own Secretaries, ſhe was privy to their Treaſons, and conſented to the Invaſion of *England*, and Deſtruction of the Queen. To which ſhe anſwered, That Letters might be counterfeited, her Secretaries might be corrupted, the reſt in hope of Life might be drawn to confeſſions which were not true. In this ſhe ſtood peremptorily, that ſhe never conſented to attempt any thing againſt the *Queens* Perſon, though for her own Delivery ſhe confeſt ſhe did deſign it; and at laſt requeſted, *That ſhe might be heard in full Parliament, or before the Queen her ſelf.* But this requeſt prevailed not; for *Oct.* 25. at the Star-Chamber at *Weſtminſter* the Commiſſioners met again, and pronounced Sentence againſt her, confirming by their Seals and Subſcriptions, *That after the firſt of* June, *in the 27th year of Queen* Elizabeth, *divers Matters were compaſſed and imagined in the Kingdom, by* Anthony Babington *and others, with the privity of* Mary *Queen of* Scots, *pretending Title to the Crown of* England, *tending to the hurt, death, and deſtruction of the Royal Perſon of our ſaid Sovereign Lady*

the

the Queen. A few days after a Parliament began, [illegible] the Peers of the Kingdom unanimouſly preſented a petition, that for the Safety of the Queen, themſelves, and their Poſterity, the Sentence againſt *Mary* Q. of *Scots* might according to Law be publiſhed; putting her in mind of the fearful Examples of *God*'s Judgments in Scripture upon *Saul* for ſparing K. *Agag*, and upon *Ahab* for not putting K. *Benhadad* to death. The Houſe of Commons likewiſe enforced this requeſt a while after: The Queen at laſt replied to this effect; *I proteſt my chief deſire hath been, that for your ſecurity, and my own ſafety, ſome other way might be deviſed, than that which is now propounded; but ſince it is now evident and certain, that my ſafety without her deſtruction is in a moſt deplorable State; I am moſt grievouſly afflicted, that I who have pardoned ſo many Rebels, have neglected ſo many Treaſons, either by ſilence or connivance, ſhould now at laſt exerciſe Cruelty upon a Prince ſo nearly allied to me. As for your Petition, I beſeech you to reſt in an anſwer without an anſwer: If I ſay, I will not grant your Petition,* I *ſhall haply ſay what I meant not: If I ſhould ſay, I will grant it, then caſt I my ſelf into deſtruction headlong, whoſe ſafety you do ſo earneſtly deſire, and that I know you in your Wiſdoms would not I ſhould do.* After this the Queen upon much ſolicitation ſealed Letters for executing the Sentence, but was in much ſuſpence what to do: Yet at laſt, her fear prevailing, ſhe delivered Secretary *Daviſon* Letters under her Hand and Seal, to get a Commiſſion under the great Seal ready drawn upon occaſion; who telling her it was ready, and the Seal put to it, ſhe was very angry, rebuking him ſharply for his haſtineſs; yet *Daviſon*, though charged with ſecrecy, imparteth the matter to ſome Privy-Counſellors, and perſwade them, that the Queen commanded the Commiſſion ſhould be put in Execution. Hereupon *Beal*, Clerk of the Council, is ſent down with Letters, without the Queens Knowledge, wherein the Earl of *Shrewsbury*, and others, are ordered to ſee her put to Death, according to Law.

And now comes the laſt Act of this Queens Tragedy; for as ſoon as the Earls were come to *Fotheringay*, they read

The Battell of Bosworth with the Miserable Death of Crookbackt Richard Pa. 129.

their Commission; whereto she answered, *That she thought the Queen her Sister would not have consented to her death as not being subject to her Laws; but since it is her pleasure, death should be welcome.* The next morning, 8.1587. she gets up early and makes her self ready, and after her Devotions came forth covered with a Linnen Vail, with an Ivory Crucifix in her Hand; in the Gallery the Earls met her, and the other Gentlemen, where *Melvin* her servant upon his knees deplored his misfortune, that he should be the Messenger to carry this sad news into *Scotland*; to whom she said, *Do not lament* Melvin, *thou shalt by and by see* Mary Steward *freed from all cares*; she then came to the Scaffold at the upper end of the Hall, where was a Chair, a Cushion, and a Block, all covered with Mourning; Then the Dean of *Peterborough* going to Prayers, she falling upon her Knees, and holding up her Crucifix in both hands, prayed with her Servants in *Latin*; she then kissed the Crucifix, and signing her self with the Cross, said, *As thy arms, O Christ, were spread forth upon the Cross, so embrace me with the open arms of thy Mercy, and forgive me my sins*: Then the Executioner asking her pardon, she forgave him; and now her Woman helping off her outward Garments, and breaking forth into shrieks and cries, she kissed them, signed them with the Cross, and bid them leave lamenting, for now an end of her sorrows was at hand; and then shadowing her face with a Linnen cloth, and lying down on the Block, she repeated that Psalm, *In te Domine speravi*, &c. *In thee O Lord have I hoped, let me never be confounded*, &c. At which words stretching forth her Body, her Head was at two Blows cut off, and after Royally buried in the Cathedral Church at *Peterborough*, but since removed to *Westminster* by her Son K. *James*. This end had *Mary* Q. of *Scots* in the 46 year of her age, and of her Imprisonment in *England* 18. a Lady who might have been happy if she had not been a Queen, and perhaps a happy Queen too, if she had not been Heir to the Crown of *England*, since all her endeavours wanted success only from the fear of that Succession.

The County of *Northampton* is divided into 20 Hundreds, wherein are 13 Market Towns, 326 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Peterborough*; It electſ 9 Parliament Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *James* L. *Compton*, and *Peterborough* to *Hen.* L. *Mordant.*

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE hath *Yorkſhire* on the North; *Lincolnſhire* on the Eaſt, *Leiceſterſhire* on the South, and *Derbyſhire* on the Weſt: It abounds in Liquorice, Fiſh, Fowl, Corn, Coals, Water and Graſs; *Nottingham* the principal Town, which giveth name to this Shire, is ſeated on the ſide of an Hill, it is pleaſantly ſighted, having on the one hand fair and large Meadows by the Rivers ſide, and on the other Hills with a gentle and eaſie aſcent: It is large and well built, ſtanding on a ſtately climbing Hill, and for a ſpacious and fair Market-place compares with the beſt. Many ſtrange Vaults hewed out of the Rock are ſeen in this Town, whereof thoſe under the Caſtle are of ſpecial Note; one for the ſtory of Chriſts paſſion, engraven on the Walls by *David* 2. K. of *Scots*, while he was Priſoner there; another wherein the L. *Mortimer* was ſurpriſed in the minority of K. *Edw.* 3. ſtill called *Mortimer's Hole*; theſe have ſtairs and rooms artificially made out of the Rocks: Alſo in that Hill are Dwelling-houſes with winding Stairs, Windows, Chimneys, upper and lower Rooms, all wrought out of the hard Rock. The Caſtle was ſtrong and kept by the *Danes* againſt the *Mercians* and *Weſt Saxons* who jointly beſeiged it; and for the further ſtrengthening of this Town, K. *Edward* the elder walled it about, whereof ſome parts yet remain from the Caſtle to the Weſt-gate, and thence the foundation may be perceived to the North, where in the midſt of the way ranging with the Bank ſtands a Gate of Stone: Its Circuit contained about 2220 paces. In the Wars between K. *Stephen* and *Maud* the Empreſs, theſe Walls were thrown down by *Robert* Earl of *Glocester*, and the Town alſo ſuffered much by Fire, but recovering its former eſtate, it hath ever ſince encreaſed in Beauty and Wealth.

Robbin

Robbin Hood, if not by birth, yet by his chiefeſt abode, was this Countryman, *Camden* ſaith, he was the gentleſt Thief that ever was; This Gallant, accompanied with little *John*, and 100 ſtout Fellows more, moleſted all Paſſengers on the highway, of whom our Poet gives this Character:

From wealthy Abbots Cheſts and Churls abundant ſtore,
What oftentimes he took, he ſhar'd amongſt the poor;
No Lordly Biſhop came in luſty Robbin's *way,*
But that, before he went, his paſs to him muſt pay:
The Widow in diſtreſs he graciouſly reliev'd,
And remedy'd the wrongs of many a Virgin griev'd.

But I cannot tell who made him a Judge, or gave him Commiſſion to take where it might beſt be ſpar'd, and give where it moſt wanted. His Principal reſidence was in *Sherwood* Forreſt in this County, though he had another haunt near the Sea, in the North-riding in *Yorkſhire*, where *Robbin Hood*'s Bay ſtill retaineth his name, not that he was a Pyrate, but a Land-Thief, and retired to theſe unſuſpected Parts for ſecurity: One may wonder he eſcaped the hands of Juſtice, dying in his Bed, for ought we find to the contrary; for the King ſetting forth a Proclamation to have him apprehended, it happened he fell ſick at a certain Nunnery in *Yorkſhire*, called *Birkleys*, and deſiring there to be let Blood, was betrayed, and made bleed to death: It is ſaid that he was of Noble Blood, at leaſt made Noble, no leſs than an Earl, for ſome deſerving ſervices; but having waſted his Eſtate in riotous courſes, meer penury forced him to take this courſe, in which he was rather a merry than miſchievous Thief, and may be ſaid to be honeſtly diſhoneſt, complementing Paſſengers out of their Purſes, and never murdered any thing but Deer, and this popular Robber generally feaſted the Neighbours with his Veniſon; he ſeldom hurt any Man, never any Woman, ſpared the poor, and made prey only of the rich: He played his pranks in the Reign of *Richard* 1. about 1195. We muſt not forget that two *Ayrs* of *Lan-*

nards were lately found in *Sherwood* Forreſt; theſe Hawks are the natives of *Saxony*, and it ſeems being old, and paſt flying at the Game, were let, or did let themſelves looſe, where meeting with Lanarets enlarged on the ſame Terms, they did breed together, and proved as excellent in their kind when managed, as any which were brought out of *Germany*.

In the laſt Year of Q. *Mary* 1568. ſuch a marvellous Tempeſt of Thunder happened within a mile of *Nottingham*, that it beat down all the Houſes and Churches in two Towns thereabout, caſt the Bells to the outſide of the Church-Yards, and ſome Webs of Lead, writhen as if it had been Leather, were thrown 400 Foot into the Field. The River of *Trent* runs between the two Towns, the water whereof, with the mud at the bottom, was carried a quarter of a Mile, and caſt againſt Trees; with the violence whereof Trees were pulled up by the roots, and caſt 12 ſcore off; alſo a Child was taken out of a Mans hand, and then let fall 200 Foot off, of which fall it died; five or ſix men thereabout were ſlain, and neither fleſh nor skin periſhed; alſo there fell ſome Hailſtones that were 15 Inches about. Upon *July* 6. 1662. ſeveral Perſons being in a Field near *Nottingham* in Thundring Weather, ſaw a Wind-Mill at ſome diſtance from them which ſeemed to be all in a flame, inſomuch that the ſpectators thought it had been burnt and conſumed, but when they came near it, they found that it was not in the leaſt prejudiced by the Fire, only one Rake head was burnt in the Mill.

This County is divided into 8 Hundreds, wherein are 9 Market-Towns, 168 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *York*; It elects 8 Parliament-men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Howard*.

NORTHUMBERLAND hath *Durham* on the South, *Cumberland* on the South-Weſt, the *Germane* Ocean on the Eaſt, and *Scotland* on the North and Eaſt; the ſoil is not very fruitful; it chiefly abounds in Fiſh, Fowl and Sea-coal: This County was formerly reckoned a Kingdom, and ſeveral Kings reigned therein, among whom

whom we read of *Ethelburg*, who in the year 617. was King thereof, and married his Daughter to one *Edwin* a Pagan, this *Edwin* being envied and hated by *Ethelfride* another King, was forced to fly to *Redwald* King of the *East Angles*, who being both afraid and corrupted by *Ethelfride*, intended to betray *Edwin* into his hands, of which conspiracy he had notice by a friend, who perswaded him to fly and save himself, to whom *Edwin* said, *whither shall I fly that have already sought for shelter almost in all the Provinces of the Realm; and if I must needs be slain, I had rather the King should do it than some other unworthy Person.* *Edwin* being afterward alone and solitary, there appeared one to him, saith the Reverend *Bede*, who said, *I know well the cause of thy heaviness, what wouldst thou give him who would deliver thee from this fear, and reconcile thee to* Redwald *again? I would*, said *Edwin, give him all that ever I could make. And what*, said the other, *if I make thee a mightier King than any of thy Progenitors?* *Edwin* answered as before: Then said the other, *And what if I shew thee a better kind and way of life than ever was shewed to any of thy Ancestors, wilt thou obey my Counsel? Yes*, said *Edwin, I will do it with all my heart*; Then the other laying his hand on his head, said, *When this token happeneth to thee, then remember this time of Tribulation, and the promise which thou hast made, and the words which I have said unto thee*: And so he vanisht out of his sight; presently after his Friend came to him, bidding him be of good cheer, *For the heart of* Redwald, said he, *which formerly sought thy destruction, now by the mediation of the Queen is turned, so that he is resolved to keep promise with thee, and to protect thee whatever comes of it.* Not long after *Redwald* raised a great Army in *Edwins* quarrel, and gave Battle to *Ethelfride* on the borders of *Mercia*, where *Ethelfride* was slain, and *Edwin* quietly made King of *Northumberland*; yet all this while he remained a Pagan, though *Ethelburga* his Queen, and *Paulinus* a learned Bishop continually perswaded him to imbrace the Christian Faith.

Hereupon a new affliction fell upon him; for *Quince-*

Kinus, and *Kingilsus*, Kings of the *West Saxons*, envying and hating *Edwin*, hired a Villain privately to murther him, who watching his opportunity when the King had but a few with him, run at him with an invenomed Sword; but one of the Servants interposing, received the wound through his own body, the King also being somewhat wounded by the Swords point which came through; the King lay long sick of this wound, but upon his recovery he raised a great Army, and went against those *West Saxon Kings*, who had so basely sought his destruction, and withall promised to Jesus Christ, *That if he obtained the Victory, he would presently be Baptized*; and his Queen being then delivered of a Daughter, he caused it to be Baptized, with twelve more of his Family; Then advancing against his Enemies through the assistance of Christ he obtained a notable Victory, putting the whole power of his Enemies to flight, and so returned home with Honour and Victory; yet did the Pomp and Glory of the world so dazle his Eyes, that he neglected to perform his vow of being Baptized, for though he willingly heard *Paulinus* Preach, and gave over his Idolatrous Services; yet withall told him, *That he could not suddenly leave the Religion of his Fore-fathers, nor be Baptized, but upon mature deliberation, and with the serious advice of his Council*: *Paulinus* observing these difficulties, continually prayed to God on his behalf, whereupon the Vision of *Edwin* aforementioned, appeared to *Paulinus*, who watching his opportunity, came to the King, and laying his hand on his head, asked him, *If he remembred that Token?* the King well remembring it, was so affected, that he was ready to fall down at *Paulinus* his feet; but *Paulinus* not suffering it, said unto him, *Behold, O King, you have vanquished your Enemies, and have obtained your Kingdom, now perform your promise, which was to imbrace the Christian Faith, and to be obedient to our Lord Christ.* The King after consultation with his Nobles, was himself, with many more of his Subjects, Baptized by *Paulinus*, and presently after all the Idols with their Altars were cast down and destroyed. We read like-

likewise that during the Heptarchy of the *Saxons* in *England*, there were two Kings in *Northumberland* called *Osrich* and *Eausride*, who before their coming to the Crown had been instructed, and trained up in the Christian Religion by this worthy Bishop *Paulinus*, but after they came to Kingly Dignities, they renounced Christ, and returned to their filthy Idols; whereupon as they forsook Christ, he forsook them, and within one years space both of them were slain by *Cadwalla* King of the *Britains*.

In the Reign of K. *Edward* 1. 1276. there happened the greatest rot of Sheep in *England* that ever was known, which continued 25 years, and came, it was thought, by one infected Sheep of incredible greatness brought out of *Spain* by a *French* Merchant into *Northumberland*. In his Reign also *John Duns*, called *Scotus*, was born at *Emilden* in *Northumberland*, though others for his name say in *Scotland*, who being brought up in *Merton* Colledge in *Oxford*, was wonderful learned in *Logick*, and in the crabbed and intricate Divinity of those days, wherein he grew to such perfection, that he was called, *The Subtile Doctor*, he went from thence to *Paris*; where as he was once sitting at Table in respect of his learning, with *Charles the Bald* Emperor, and King of *France*, he behaved himself like a slovenly Schollar, not at all gentilly; whereupon the King jestingly asked him, *Quid interest inter Scotum & Sotum*; *What is between a Scot and a Sot*; he merrily, yet confidently answered, *Mensa*, *The Table*, as though the Emperor were the *Sot*, and he the *Scot*: Another time the Emperor gave him two large Fishes, and one little one in a Dish, bidding him carve to two other Schollars who were tall men, himself being little: Mr. *John* lays the two great Fishes on his own Trencher, and gives them the little one; The Emperor smiling said, *In good Faith Mr.* John *you are no fair Carver*; *yes*, *if it please your Highness*, *very fair*, said he, *for here* (pointing to himself and the two great Fishes) *be two great ones*, *and a little one*; *and so is yonder* (pointing to the Schollars) *two great ones*, *and one little one*. He went thence to *Colen*, where he died miserably; for being taken

with an Apoplexy, he was too haſtily buried, and after a time revived, and making means in vain by a lamentable voice to call for help; after he had a long time knocked his head againſt the Grave-ſtone, daſhed out his Brains, and ſo yielded up his vital breath, as was afterward diſcovered; whereupon theſe Verſes were made by an *Italian*.

Quæcunque humani fuerant juriſque Sacrati, &c.

All learning taught in Human Books, and couch'd in Holy (Writ,
Dun Scotus *dark and doubtful made, by ſubtilty of wit:*
No marvel that to doubtful terms of life, himſelf was brought,
For with a wile and ſubtil trick, death on his body wrought;
Since ſhe her ſtroke to kill out-right would not to him vouch- (ſafe:
So he poor Man (a piteous caſe) was buried quick in grave.

In the 12*th* of K. *Edward* 3. 1339. a ſudden inundation of water happened at *Newcaſtle* upon *Tyne*, which brake down a piece of the Town Wall, of ſix perches in length, and near a place called *Walkenew* 120 Men and Women were drowned. In the reign of K. *Hen.* 4. 1402. *Patrick Hepburn*, a *Scottiſh-man*, with a conſiderable Army invaded *Northumberland*, making great ſpoil, and loading his Soldiers with prey and Priſoners, but in his retreat marching careleſly and licentiouſly, he was ſet upon by the E. of *Northumberland*, himſelf and all the flower of his Army ſlain, and a multitude of common Soldiers taken Priſoners; in revenge whereof *Archibald Dowglas* with an Army of 20000 entred *Northumberland*, but in a place called *Hamilden* were encountred by the *Engliſh* under the Command of *Henry* L. *Peircy*, Sirnamed *Hotſpur*, and *George* E. of *March*, who put them to flight, and after the ſlaughter of 10000 of them, took 500 Priſoners. In 1657. *Machal Vivan*, Miniſter of *Lesbury* in *Northumberland* being then 110 years old, and who for 40 years before could not read without Spectacles, yet then his ſight was ſo renewed, that he could read the ſmalleſt print without the help of Spectacles; and

and whereas he had loſt moſt of his Teeth, yet now new ones came in their room, and having been long bald, his hair came again like the hair of a Child; he was alſo before very weak and feeble, but now his ſtrength ſo much increaſed, that he was able to walk ſome miles, to ſtudy much, and to preach twice every Lords day: This is a moſt certain and undoubted truth, which he himſelf confirmed under his hand to a Citizen of *London*, who ſent him a Letter on purpoſe to receive ſatisfaction.

The County of *Northumberland* is divided into ſix Wards, wherein are 6 Market-Towns, 460 Pariſhes, and is in the Dioceſs of *Durham*; It elects 8 Parliament-Men, and for many Ages gave the Title of Earls to the Family of the *Peircies*, which being extinct in the Male line, *George Fitz-Roy*, third Son to the Dutcheſs of *Cleaveland*, is now Earl of *Northumberland*; *Newcaſtle* gives that of Duke to *Hen.* L. *Cavendiſh*.

OXFORDSHIRE hath *Bark-ſhire* on the South, *Glocaſterſhire* on the Weſt, *Buckinghamſhire* on the Eaſt, *Warwick* and *Northampton-ſhires* on the North; The Bleſſings both of the ſweet breathing Heavens, and the fruitful ſoil of this County are ſo happy and delicious, that it is difficult to determine which of them exceeds; it takes its name from that City which hath long been the glorious Seat of the Muſes, the *Engliſh Athens*; It is ſaid, this place was conſecrated to the ſacred Sciences in the time of the old *Brittains*, and that the Academy was tranſlated from *Greeklad*, a Town in *Wiltſhire* to *Oxford*, as more pleaſant and beautiful, both in reſpect of private Houſes, and publick Buildings; *Matthew Paris* calls it the ſecond School of Chriſtendom, and the chief Pillar of the Catholick Church; and in the Council of *Vienna* it was ordained that in *Paris*, *Oxford*, *Bononia* and *Salamanca*, Schools ſhould be erected for the *Hebrew*, *Greek*, *Arabick* and *Chaldean* Tongues, and that *Oxford* ſhould be the general Univerſity for all *England*, *Ireland*, *Scotland* & *Wales*, ſoon after it ſo flouriſhed, that in the Reign of K. *Henry* 3. 30000 Students were therein reſident.

There are at present seventeen Colledges, seven Halls, and many fair Collegiate-Churches therein, all adorned with stately Buildings, and enriched with great endowments, noble Libraries, and most learned Graduats of all Professions; but the famous Library is that founded by Sir *Thomas Bodley*, formerly a Fellow of *Merton* Colledge, who began to furnish it with Desks and Books about 1598. before which King *Henry* 8. was a good Benefactor thereto, who imployed Persons into divers parts of the world to collect Books, and from *Constantinople*, by reason of the Patriarch thereof, he received a Ship laden with *Arabick* and *Greek* Books. Afterward it met with the liberality of divers of the Nobility, Prelacy and Gentry; *William* Earl of *Pembroke* procured a great number of *Greek* Manuscripts out of *Italy*, and gave them thereto; *William Laud* A. B. of *Canterbury* bestowed 1300 choice Manuscripts upon it, most of them in the *Oriental* Tongues; at last to compleat this stately and plentiful mansion of the Muses, there was an accession to it of above 8000 Books, being the Library of that most learned Antiquary Mr. *John Selden*. By the bounty of these noble Benefactors, and many others it is improved in such a manner, that it is a question whether it be exceeded by any other Library in the world. To this may be added the most Noble Theatre lately erected by Dr. *Gilbert Sheldon*, late A. B. of *Canterbury*, which is a building of as excellent Workmanship and curious painting and contrivance as any in Europe.

In the year 1036. *Canutus* the famous *Danish* King dyed; and *Hardiknute* his Son by Queen *Emma*, being then in *Denmark*, *Harold* his elder, but Bastard Brother, stept into the Throne, for the Nobility meeting at *Oxford*, the presence of the one out-weighed the absence of the other; so that they unanimously proclaimed him to be their King, & he was soon after solemnly Crowned at *Oxford* by *Elnothus*, A. B. of *Canterbury*, though for some time he seemed unwilling to perform that service; for 'tis reported, that he having the Regal Crown and Scepter in his possession, he swore he would not consecrate

any

any other for King, so long as any of Q. *Emma*'s Children were living; *For*, said he, Canutus *committed them to my Trust and Protection, and to them will I give my Faith and Allegiance; this Scepter and Crown therefore I here lay down upon this Altar, neither do I deny, nor deliver them to you, but by Apostolick authority I require all Bishops that none of them presume to take the same away; neither therewith to consecrate you for King, as for your self you may if you dare, usurp that which I have committed to God on this his Table.* But notwithstanding these thundring words were soon allayed with golden showers of Promises of his future, just and religious Government, though they were soon forgot; but he did not long enjoy his Usurpation, dying 4 years after, and was buried at *Oxford*.

In 1258. a Parliament was called at *Oxford*, to reconcile the differences between K. *Hen.* 3. and his Barons; where the Lords and Bishops propounded several Articles to the King, as, *That he should faithfully keep and observe the Charter of Liberties which he had so often sworn to; That none should be Judges but those who would judge according to right, without respect to poor or rich*, &c. Then they again renewed their Confederacy, solemnly swearing, *That neither for life, nor death, nor love, nor hate, they would not be drawn to relent in their purpose, till they had cleared* England, *in which themselves and their Forefathers were born, from Upstarts and Aliens, and had procured laudable Statutes*; Yea these turbulent Nobles went farther, and it was contrived by the Bishops, saith M. *Westminst.* *That 24 persons should be chosen to have the whole Administration of the Kingdom, and to appoint yearly all Officers, reserving only to the King the highest places in publick Meetings, and salutations of honour in publick Places*: And to inforce these Articles they were strongly armed, and provided with Forces, so that the King and Prince *Edward* were compelled to swear to these *Oxford* Provisions, as they were called, for fear of perpetual Imprisonment, the Lords have published a Proclamation *That whosoever resisted them should be put to death*: Then the Peers and Prelates took their Corporal Oaths to be true to the

King,

King, and that they would all stand to the Trial of their Peers; the Lords soon after required *William de Valence* the Kings half-Brother to deliver up a Castle to them; which he swearing he would not do, the E. of *Leicester* and the rest answered, *That they would either have his Castle or his Head*: The People seemed wholly theirs, which so heightned the Barons, that when *Henry* Son to the King of *Almain* refused the confederacy, or to take the Oath without his Fathers consent, they boldly told him, *That if his Father himself did not hold with the Baronage of* England, *he should not have a furrow of Earth among them*: These hot proceedings made all the *Frenchmen* about the King run from *Oxford* into *France*; yea *Richard* King of the *Romans*, the Kings Brother, coming to see the King and his Countrey, the Barons grew suspicious of him, and therefore required him to take the following Oath: *Hear all men, I* Richard *E. of* Cornwall *swear upon the holy Gospels to be faithful and forward to reform with you the Kingdom of* England, *hitherto by the counsel of wicked men too much deformed; and I will be an effectual coadjutor to expel the Rebels and Troublers of the Realm from out of the same: This Oath will I observe upon pain to forfeit all the Lands I have in* England. These proceedings were too hot to hold; for a while after the Earls of *Leicester* and *Gloucester*, two of the chiefest Confederates, falling at debate among themselves, the King took the advantage thereof, and in a little time recovered his former Power and Authority. But from hence we may observe, that the *Popish* Nobility, Clergy nor Laity, have not at all times been so very Loyal to their Princes, as they would now make the ignorant believe. In the 20*th* year of his Reign, a Schollar of *Oxford* endeavouring to kill the King in his Chamber at *Woodstock* was taken, and afterward pulled to pieces with wild Horses.

In 1400. a Conspiracy was contrived against K. *Hen.* 4. in the first Year of his Reign, in the house of the Abbot of *Westminster*, who was a kind of a Book-Statesman, but better read in the Politicks of *Aristotle* than *Solomon*, who remembring some words of K. *Henry* when he was only

only Earl of *Derby*; *That Princes had too little, and Religious men too much*; and fearing left now being King, he ſhould put his words into Act, he thought it better to uſe preventing Phyſick before-hand, than to ſtand to the hazard of curing it afterward; and thereupon invited to his Houſe ſeveral diſcontented Lords, as the Duke of *Exeter*, the D. of *Surrey*, the D. of *Aumerle*, E. of *Salisbury*, E. of *Gloceſter*, Biſhop of *Carlile*, *Maudlin*, one of K. *Richard* 2. Chaplains, and ſeveral other Knights and Gentlemen, who after Dinner conferring together, and communicating their diſaffections to each other againſt K. *Henry*; they reſolved at laſt to take away his Life, and contrived this way to do it: They would publiſh a ſolemn Juſts or Turnament to be held at *Oxford* at a day appointed, to which the King was to be invited to honour it with his preſence, and there while all men were intent upon the ſport, they would have him murthered. This Plot was reſolved on, Oaths of ſecrecy were taken, and ſolemn Indentures for performing the agreed conditions were ſigned, ſealed and delivered: The Juſts are proclaimed, the King is invited, and promiſeth to come, ſecrecy on all hands is kept moſt firmly to the very day: But though all other kept Counſel, yet Providence would not; for it happened that as the Duke of *Aumerle* was riding to the Lords at *Oxford* againſt the day appointed, he took it in his way to go viſit his Father the D. of *York*; and having in his boſom the Indenture of Conſpiracy, his Father as they ſate at Dinner chanced to ſpy it, and asked what it was; to whom his Son anſwering, *It was nothing that any way concerned him; By St.* George (ſaith the Father) *but I will ſee it*; and therewithall ſnatching it from him, read it; and then with great fierceneſs ſpake thus to him: *I ſee, Traitor, that idleneſs hath made thee ſo wanton and mutinous, that thou playeſt with thy Faith and Allegiance as children do with ſticks; thou haſt been once already faithleſs to K.* Rich. 2. *and now again art falſe to K.* Hen. *& art never quiet; thou knoweſt that in open Parliament I became ſurety and pledge for thy Allegiance both in Body & Goods; and can neither thy Duty nor my*

Deſert

Deſert reſtrain thee from ſeeking my deſtruction? In faith but I will rather help forward thine; And commanding his Horſes to be made ready, he with all ſpeed rid to the King to *Windſor*; but his Son knowing his danger, rid inſtantly another way, and came to the Court before him, where locking the Gates, and taking the Keys from the Porter, pretending ſome ſpecial reaſon, he went up to the King, and falling on his knees, aſked his Pardon, the King demanding for what Offence, he then diſcovered the whole Plot; which he had ſcarce done when his Father came rapping at the Court-gates, and coming to the King ſhewed him the Indenture of Confederacy which he had taken from his Son: This amazed the King, and thereupon laying aſide the ſeeing of the Juſting of others in jeſt, takes care that he be not juſtled out of the Throne in earneſt: In the mean time the confederate Lords being ready at *Oxford*, and hearing nothing of the Duke of *Aumerle*, nor ſeeing any preparation for the Kings coming, they were certainly perſuaded their Treaſon was diſcovered; upon which conſidering their caſe was deſperate, they apparel *Magdalen*, who was like K. *Richard* 2. in Royal Robes, and publiſhed that he was eſcaped out of Priſon; next they diſpatch Meſſengers to require aſſiſtance from the King of *France*, and then ſet forward againſt K. *Henry* at *Windſor*; but he being gone to *London*, they could not agree what meaſures to take; and coming to *Cicester*, the Bailiff of the Town couragiouſly ſet upon them, and with the aſſiſtance of the Townſmen beat their forces, killing the Duke of *Surrey* and the E. of *Salisbury*, and taking divers Priſoners; above 30 Lords, Knights and Gentlemen, with *Magdalen* the Counterfeit being ſent to *Oxford* to the King, and there executed. About this time alſo a ſtrange piece of Treaſon is reported to have been practiſed againſt K. *Henry*'s Life, that there was found in his Bedcloaths an Iron with three ſharp ſpikes ſtanding upright, that when the King ſhould lie down he might thruſt himſelf upon them. Thus ended this Treaſonable attempt, ſoon after which followed the cruel murder of K. *Richard* 2. in *Pomfract* Caſtle.

In

In the Reign of K. *Hen.*8. 1541. This ridiculous accident happened, as it is related by Mr. *Fox*, which shews what disorders may fall out through error and mistake; There was one Mr. *Mallery* Master of Arts in *Cambridge*, who for opinions contrary to the *Romish* Church was convented before the Bishops, and then sent to *Oxford*, there openly to recant, and carry a Faggot, to the terror of the Students of that University: The next *Sunday* he was brought into St. *Marys* Church, many Doctors, Divines, and Citizens being present; Dr. *Smith* preached the Recantation-Sermon, and Mr. *Mallery* stood before him with his Faggot; about the midst of the Sermon there was suddenly heard in the Church the voice of one crying *Fire, Fire,* in the Streets: occasioned by one that came by and saw a Chimney a fire in *Alhallows* Parish, and so passing by the Church, cried *Fire,* thinking no hurt; this sound of fire being heard in the Church, went from one to another, till at length it came to the Ears both of the Doctors and Preacher himself, who amazed with sudden fear, began to look up to the top and Walls of the Church, which others seeing, look up also; then began some in the midst of the crowd to cry out, *Fire, Fire,* where saith one, and another, In the Church says one, the Church was scarce pronounced, when in a moment there was a great cry, *The Church is afire, the Church is afire by Hereticks*: Then was there such horrour and confusion as cannot be expresst, which raised such a Dust as seemed like Smoak indeed; this and the outcries of the People made them all so afraid, that leaving the Sermon they began all to run away; but such was the press of the multitude crouding together, that the more they laboured the less they could get out; for they stuck so fast in the door, that there was no moving forward nor backward; they ran to another little Wicket on the North side, and from thence to another door on the West; but there was so great a throng, that with the force thereof the great Bar of Iron, which is almost incredible to speak, was pulled out and broken with the strength of mens hands, and

and yet could not the door be opened for the vaſt concourſe of people: At laſt being paſt hope of getting out, they in great amazement ran up and down, crying out, *That the Hereticks had conſpired their death*: One ſaid he plainly heard the Fire, another affirmed he ſaw it, and a third ſwore he felt the melted Lead dropping down upon his Head and Shoulders; none made more noiſe than the Doctor that preached, who firſt of all cried out in the Pulpit, *Theſe are the ſubtleties of the Hereticks againſt me, Lord have mercy upon me, Lord*, &c. In all this conſternation nothing was more feared than the melting of the Lead, which many affirmed they felt dropping on their Bodies: The Doctors finding Authority and force could not prevail, fell to Intreaties, one offering 20 pound, another his Scarlet Gown, ſo that any man would pull him out though it were by the Ears: A Preſident of a Colledge pulling a Board out from the Pews, covered his Head and Shoulders therewith againſt the ſcalding Lead, which they feared much more than the falling of the Church; one thought to get out at a Window, and had broken the Glaſs, and got his Head and one Shoulder out, but then ſtuck faſt between the Iron Bars, that he could move neither way; others ſtuck as faſt in the doors, over the heads of whom ſome got out: A Boy was got up to the top of the Church-door, and ſeeing a Monk, who had got upon the Heads of men, coming toward him, with a great wide cowl hanging at his Back, the Boy thought it a good opportunity to make his eſcape, and handſomely conveyed himſelf into the Monks cowl; the Monk got out with the Boy in his cowl, and for a while felt no weight nor burden, but at laſt feeling his cowl heavier than ordinary, and hearing a voice behind him, he was more afraid than while in the throng, verily believing that the Evil Spirit which had ſet the Church on Fire had flown into his cowl, whereupon he began to play the Conjurer; ſaying, *In the name of God and all Saints I command thee to declare what thou art that art behind my Back*: *I am* Bertramus *Boy*, ſaid the other; *But I*, ſaid the Monk, *adjure thee in the name*

of

of the inſeparable Trinity, that thou wicked Spirit do tell me who thou art, and from whence thou com'ſt, and that thou go hence: *I am* Bertramus *Boy*, ſaid he, *and I pray good Maſter let me go.* When the Monk perceived the matter, he took the Boy out, who ran away as faſt as he could; In the mean time thoſe without the Church ſeeing all things ſafe, made ſigns to them within to be quiet; but the noiſe being ſo great, that no word could be heard, theſe ſigns increaſed their fear, ſuppoſing all the Church on fire without, and that they were bid to tarry within, and not to venture out, becauſe of the dropping of the Leads, and the fall of other things: this trouble laſted many hours, but at length the miſtake was diſcovered. The next day and week following there was an incredible number of Bills ſet upon the Church-doors to enquire for things loſt, as Shoes, Gowns, Caps, Purſes, Girdles, Swords and Money, for in this hurry there were few but through negligence or forgetfulneſs left ſomething behind: The poor Heretick, who by this diſturbance had not done his ſufficient Pennance, performed the reſt of it the next day at the Church of St. *Frideſwide.*

In the 6. of K. *Edw.* 6. at *Middleton-Stony*, 11 Miles from *Oxford*, a Woman brought forth a Child with two perfect Bodies from the Navel upwards; the Legs for both the Bodies grew out at the midſt where the Bodies joined, and had but one iſſue for the Excrements of them both, they were Women Children, and lived 18 days. In the 19. of Q. *Eliz.* 1577. when the Judges ſate at the Aſſizes in *Oxford*, and one *Rowland Jentis* a Bookſeller was queſtioned for ſpeaking opprobrious words againſt the Queen, ſuddenly there aroſe a Peſtilent damp and ſavour, whether coming from the noiſome ſmell of the Priſoners, or from the infectious ground is uncertain, but almoſt every one who was there preſent (except Women and Children) died within 40 hours after, and the contagion went no further; there died the L. chief Baron *Bell*, the Sheriffs, ſeveral other Gentlemen, almoſt all the Jury-men, and about 300 other perſons. In 1650.

Dec.

Dec. 14. *Ann Green*, a perſon unmarried was indicted, arraigned, caſt, condemned and executed for killing her Baſtard Child, at the Aſſizes at *Oxford*; after ſome hours her body being taken down, and prepared for diſſection in the Anatomy Schools, ſome heat was found in her, which by the care of the Doctors was improved to a perfect recovery; which ſome believe was a miraculous token of her Innocence, ſhe affirming both before and after her Execution, that the Child fell from her ſuddenly into the Vault without any deſign to deſtroy it; ſhe lived many Years after, was married, and had three Children.

The Family of the *Popes* is conſiderable in this County, the Predeceſſor thereof being very active under the L. *Cromwell* in dividing the Abby-Lands, whereby he made his fortune; there are many deſcendants from him in *Oxfordſhire*, of very competent Eſtates, by the ſame Token that when K. *James* came to the Houſe of Sir *T. Pope*, when his Lady was lately delivered of a Daughter, the Babe was preſented to the King with this Paper of Verſes in her hand; which becauſe they pleaſed the King, I hope they will not diſpleaſe the Reader;

See this little Miſtreſs here
Did never ſit in Peters *Chair*,
Nor a Tripple Crown did wear,
And yet ſhe is a Pope.

No Benefice ſhe ever ſold,
Nor did diſpence with ſins for Gold,
She hardly is a ſev'night old,
And yet ſhe is a Pope.

No King her Feet did ever kiſs,
Or had from her worſe looks than this,
Nor did ſhe ever hope
To ſaint one with a Rope,
And yet ſhe is a Pope.

A Female Pope, *you'l ſay a ſecond* Joan,
No ſure, ſhe is Pope *Innocent or none.*

The

The County of *Oxford* is divided into 14 Hundreds, wherein are 15 Market Towns, 280 Parish Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Oxford*; It elects 9 Parliament Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Aubrey de Vere*, the twentieth Earl of that Family, as *Burford* doth to *Charles* L. *Beuclair*, and *Banbury* to *Ch.* L. *Knollys*.

RUTLANDSHIRE hath *Lincolnſhire* on the Eaſt, *Nottinghamſhire* on the South, and *Leiceſterſhire* on the Weſt and North; the form thereof is round, and no longer in compaſs, than an Horſeman can eaſily ride round in one day, upon which ſome will have this Shire named from one *Rutt*, who accordingly rid round it; but others will have it called *Rutland*, of the *redneſs* of the ſoil, becauſe the earth doth ſtain the Wool of their Sheep into a reddiſh colour; The air is good both for health and delight, ſubject neither to extremity of heat nor cold, nor is it greatly troubled with foggy miſts; The ſoil is rich for Tillage and Corn; Woods there are plenty, and ſome of them imparked; the Hills are ſtored with Herds of Cattle, and Flocks of Sheep, the Vallies beſprinkled with many ſweet Springs, ſo that they abound both in Grain and Paſtures, neither is there any thing wanting for mans conveniency even in this little County, which is but 14 miles long, 12 broad, and 42 miles circumference.

The Ancient Inhabitants were ſubdued by *Publius Oſtorius* under the yoke of the Emperor *Claudius*, and after the departure of the *Romans*, the *Saxons* made it part of their *Mercian* Kingdom; this County was bequeathed by the Will of *Edward the Confeſſor* to his Queen *Edgith*, and after her deceaſe to his Monaſtery at *Weſtminſter*; The Family of the *Ferrers* were at firſt here ſeated, as the Horſhoe, whoſe Badg then it was, doth witneſs, for in the Caſtle, now the Shire Hall, juſt over the Judges Seat, there is an Iron Horſhoe fixed, curiouſly wrought, containing five foot and an half in length, and the breadth proportionable. Near *Burley Houſe*, the ancient Seat of the *Harringtons*, ſtandeth *Oakham* a fair Market-Town, which Lordſhip the Lord

Har-

Harrington enjoyed, with a Priviledge that was ſomewhat extraordinary; which was this, *That if any of Noble Birth came within the Precinct of that Lordſhip, they ſhould forfeit as an Homage, a Shoe from the Horſe whereon they rid, or elſe to redeem it with a Sum of Money*; in witneſs whereof there are many Horſhoes nailed upon the Shire-Hall door, ſome of large ſize and ancient faſhion, others new, and of our preſent Nobility, whoſe names are ſtamped upon them, and many without names; That ſuch homage was due it appears, becauſe there was a ſuit in Law commenced againſt the E. of *Lincoln*, who refuſed to forfeit his penalty, or pay the Fine.

Little *Jeffery* was born in the Pariſh of *Oakham*, his Father was a very proper man, broad ſhouldred, and cheſted, though his Son never arrived at a full Ell in Stature; his Father who kept and ordered the baiting of Bulls for *George* Duke of *Buckingham*, a place requiring a ſtrong body to manage it, preſented him at *Burleigh in the Hill* to the Dutcheſs of *Buckingham*, being then nine years old, and ſcarce a foot and half in height, upon which *Jeffery* was inſtantly heightned, not in ſtature, but condition, from one degree above Raggs into Silk and Sattin, and had two tall men to attend him; he was without any deformity, wholly proportionable, whereas Dwarfs are often Pigmies in one part, and Giants in another; and yet though he was the leaſt that *England* ever ſaw, he was a proper Perſon, compared to him that *Sabinus* ſays was ſeen in *Italy*, who was a man of a ripe Age, not above a Cubit high, and was carried about in a Parrots Cage: this *Jeffery* was once preſented in a cold baked Pye to King *Charles* and Q. *Mary* at an entertainment, and ever after lived in great plenty at Court, wanting nothing but Humility, having a high mind in a low body, which made him that he did not *know himſelf*, and would not *know his Father*, for which by the Kings Command he was ſeverely corrected; He was, though a Dwarf, no Coward, being a Captain of Horſe in the Kings Army in the late Civil Wars, and afterward went over to follow the Queen in *France*, where being provoked

ged by Mr. *Crofts*, who accounted him the object, not of his *Anger*, but *Contempt*; he ſhewed to all, that every fly has his ſting, and they muſt be ſmall indeed who cannot do miſchief, eſpecially ſince a Piſtol is a pure leveller, and puts both *Dwarf* and *Giant* into equal capacity to kill and be killed, for ſhooting this Mr. *Crofts* he was impriſoned. It is ſaid, that the Kings great Porter one time in a Mask at *Whitehall*, in the middle of his dance pulled little *Jeffery* out of his Pocket, to the ſurprize of the Spectators, and ſo I leave *Jeffery* the leaſt man of the leaſt County in *England*; yet I find in a late Author, that there is now, or was very lately, one *Philippa French*, born at *Milcomb* in *Oxfordſhire*, of 36 years of Age, and a married Woman, who hath all parts proportionable, and of good ſhape, and yet wants half an inch of a yard in height, which is ſomewhat lower than *Manius Maximus*, or M. *Tullius*, who, as *Varro* reports, were each but two Cubits high, and yet were Gentlemen and Knights of *Rome*, but higher than *Canopas* the Dwarf of *Julia*, Neice to the Emperor *Auguſtus*, who, *Pliny* ſays, was but two foot and an hand-breadth high; but whether he were at his full growth, or proportionable, he doth not tell us.

The County of *Rutland* is divided into five Hundreds, wherein are 2 Market-Towns, 48 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Peterborough*; It elects only 2 Parliament-Men for the County, and gives the Title of Earl to *John* L. *Mannours*.

SHROPSHIRE hath *Cheſhire* on the North, *Worceſter*, *Hereford* and *Radnor ſhires* on the South, *Montgomery* and *Denbigh ſhires* on the Weſt; It produceth Iron, Pitcoal, Barley, Wheat, Cattle, Wood and Cloth; The Shire-Town is *Shrewsbury*, which for Circuit, Trade and Wealth doth ſurpaſs *Ludlow*, and is inferior to few of our Cities; her Buildings are fair, her Streets many and large, her Inhabitants rich, her Trade chiefly in our Staple Commodities of Cloth and Freezes. In the reign of King *John* 1197. *Robert of Shrewsbury* was Biſhop

Biſhop of *Bangor*, whom this King afterward in War with *Leoline* Prince of *Wales* took Priſoner in his own Cathedral Church, and enjoyned him to pay 300 Hawks for his ranſome, which ſeemed not ſo proper, that a man of Peace ſhould be ranſomed with Birds of Prey; yet we read that in the Reign of K. *Charles* 1. a Nobleman was ranſomed at the Iſle of *Rhee* for a brace of Grey-hounds; neither may it be wondred how the Biſhop procured them of a ſudden, ſince many were brought from *Norway*, and he might alſo furniſh himſelf out of *Pembrokeſhire*; This Biſhop ſeemed ſomewhat humorous by a paſſage in his Will, wherein he ordered his Body ſhould be buried in the midſt of the Market-place of *Shrewsbury*, which may be imputed either to his humility, or his foreſight, that the fury of the Wars then between the *Engliſh* and *Welſh* would fall fierceſt on Churches as the faireſt Market, & that men preferring their Profit before their Piety, would preſerve their Market-places, though their Churches were deſtroyed: He died 1215.

In 1402. K. *Henry* 4. was made ſenſible that a Crown can hardly ſit eaſy upon the head, if it be not ſet right on at firſt, for now a new Conſpiracy was hatched againſt him, the *Piercies* Earls of *Northumberland* and *Worceſter*, with *Henry Hotſpur* began at this time to fall off from K. *Henry*, becauſe at their requeſt he denied to redeem their Kinſman *Mortimer* from *Glendours* ſlavery; and that he denied them the benefit of ſuch Priſoners as they had taken of the *Scots* at *Hamilden*, whereupon they themſelves procured *Mortimers* delivery, and then entred into a League Offenſive and Defenſive with *Glendour*, whereby they agreed to divide the Kingdom into three parts between them, wherein *Glendour* perſuaded them they ſhould fulfill a Prophecy, as though K. *Henry* were the Mouldwarp curſed of Gods own mouth, and they were the Lyon, the Dragon, and the Wolf who ſhould divide the Land among them; all *England* from the *Severn* to *Trent* South and Eaſtward was to be the portion of the Earl of *March*; all *Wales* and the Lands beyond

yond *Severn* Westward to be *Owen Glendours*, and all the remainder of the Land from the *Trent* Northward to be the L. *Piercies*; In the mean time K. *Henry* not unacquainted with the Conspiracy, published by Proclamation, that *Mortimer* Earl of *March* had voluntarily caused himself to be taken Prisoner; that the Rebels having him in their Custody, might pretend some colour for their Conspiracy, and therefore he had little reason to take care for his deliverance: Hereupon the *Piercies*, assisted with a Company of *Scots*, with the E. of *Stafford*, *Richard Scroop* Archbishop of *York*, and many others resolved to join with *Glendour*; but first they framed certain Articles against the King, and sent them to him in writing.

That King Henry *had falsified his Oath given at his landing, swearing that he came only to recover his Inheritance, and would not meddle with the King or Crown; That most Traiterously he had taken Arms against his Soveraign Lord King* Richard 2. *had Imprisoned him, and then most barbarously caused him to be murdered, and without any Title or Right had procured himself to be made, and crowned King; That ever since the Murder of K.* Richard *he had unjustly kept the Kingdom and Crown from his Cousen* Edmund Mortimer, *Earl of* March, *to whom of right it belonged; That when no want compelled him, he had imposed divers Subsidies and Taxes upon the People to their great grief, of which they would willingly, but durst not complain; That no Justice could be expected from him, since contrary to his Coronation-Oath he had by Letters sent into divers Counties, procured such Parliament-Men to be chosen, as upon occasion might serve his turn: And lastly, that whereas for Affinities sake he ought to have ransomed his Cousen the Earl of* March *from his strait and loathsome Imprisonment, he not only denied it, but falsly and untruly published, that he became a voluntary Prisoner; for all which and many other causes, they utterly defied* Henry *as a Traytor and Usurper, and as an Enemy vowed his destruction, and the restoring the said Earl to his Right.* K. *Henry* could not but know that all these Articles against him were true, yet since this knowledge did not hinder him from seeking the Crown when he had it not;

it

it would leſs hinder him from ſeeking to keep it now he had it; and if he were able, being a private man, to get it from a King, he was likely to be more able being now a King to keep it from private Men; and as for any objections of Conſcience, he could anſwer them all by this, That if his Title were good againſt K. *Richard* by his reſignation, it was good againſt *Mortimer* by his ſwearing Allegiance; and upon theſe grounds, with a mind as confident as if all Circumſtances were on his ſide, he raiſed an Army, and marched toward the Lords, taking care they might by no means join with the *Welſh*, and in *Battlefield* near *Shrewsbury* he encountred them, in which Fight, though the *Scots* and *Henry Hotſpur* ſhewed much Valour, yet the Victory reſted on the Kings ſide, *Hotſpur* being ſlain, the E. of *Worceſter* taken Priſoner, with ſeveral others: On the Kings part the L. *Stafford*, who that day revolted to him, and 9 who were that morning Knighted were ſlain, and 1600 common Soldiers, but of the Conſpirators above 6000; The King was once unhorſed by *Dowglaſs*, who in his preſence ſlew Sir *W. Blunt*, who was that day attired in all things like the King; *Dowglaſs* being afterward taken Priſoner by the fall of his Horſe, was by the Kings Command for his Valour ſet at liberty without ranſom. In this Battle the young Prince *Henry*, though wounded in the face with an Arrow, loſt not his Courage, but continued fighting ſtill. After this Victory the King cauſed publick thanks to be given, and then ordered the E. of *Worceſter* to be beheaded, and many others to be hanged, drawn and quartered; after which he ſent P. *Henry* into *Wales* with his whole Army, but before his coming all *Owen Glendours* Army forſook him; ſo that lurking in the Woods for fear of being taken, he was there miſerably famiſhed: Many of his Aſſociates were taken and put to death; and thus in the 4*th* year of his reign all the great troubles of this K. *Henry* ended.

In the 5*th* of *Edward* 6. 1552. the *ſweating ſickneſs* broke out firſt in *Shrewsbury*, and then in the North, and after it grew more extream in *London*, ſo that in the firſt week there died 800 Perſons; it was ſo violent that it

The Groaning Tree in Lincolnshire Pa. 137.

The Lady riding naked through Coventry Pa. 207.

it took away men in 24 hours, sometimes in 12. the 2 Sons of *Charles Brandon* Duke of *Suffolk* died thereof, one an hour after another, so that both of them died Dukes. This Disease was proper to the *English*, and followed them wheresoever they were in foreign parts, but seized upon none of any other Country. *Thomas Par* was born at *Winnington* in this County, in the Reign of K. *Edward* 4. 1483. At 80 Years of Age he married his first Wife *Jane*, and in 32 Years had but two Children by her, one living but a Month, the other but a few Years, being 120 Years old he fell in love with *Katherine Milton*, and with remarkable strength got her with Child, he lived to 150 Years; Two Months before his death he was brought to *London* by the Earl of *Arundel*, he slept away most of his time, and is thus characterized by an Eye-witness.

From head to heel his Body had all over
A quick-set, thick-set, natural, hairy cover.

Change of Air, Diet, or the trouble of many Visitants are thought to hasten his end. He died *Nov.* 15. 1634. and was buried in the Abby Church.

Shropshire is divided into 15 Hundreds, wherein are 15 Market Towns, 170 Parish Churches, and is in the Dioceses of *Hereford* and *Litchfield*; It elects 12 Parliament Men, and *Shrewsbury* gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Talbot*, the 12 of that Family.

SOMERSETSHIRE hath the *Severn* Sea on the North, *Gloceſter* on the North-East, *Wiltshire* on the East, *Devonshire* on the West, and *Dorsetshire* on the South: It abounds in Cattle, Cheese, Lead and Corn, of which it is so very fruitful that the Inhabitants tell you, several single Acres of Land in this shire will serve a good round Family with Bread for the Year, as affording a Bushel of Wheat for every week therein, which is not easily to be parallel'd in other places; This Country is famous for three Cities, *Bath*, *Wells*, and *Bristoll*; the first takes its name from the hot Baths, which some call *The waters of*

the Sun; It is recorded that *Bladud* the Son of *Lud*, King of the *Brittains*, in the year of the World 3100, built this City, and conveyed the admirable virtues into theſe Waters by Magick Art, and that he was ſo much addicted to Necromancy, as he wrought Wonders thereby, inſomnch that he made himſelf Wings, and attempted to fly like *Dedalus*, but the Devil ever a deceiver, forſook him in his Journey, ſo that he fell down and broke his Neck: This City is ſeated in a Plain, invironed round about with Hills almoſt of one height, out of which certain Rills of freſh water flow continually to the great benefit of the Citizens; within the City there bubble or boyl up in three ſeveral places hot ſprings of Water, of a Sea-coal colour, ſending up from them thin vapours, and a kind of ſtrong ſcent withall, by reaſon it is ſtrained through veins of Brimſtone, and a clammy kind of Earth called *Bitumen*. Theſe Springs are very Medicinal, and of great virtue to cure Bodies overcharged and benummed with corrupt Humors, by their heat cauſing much ſweat; They are much frequented by Perſons of all Qualities, and almoſt for all diſeaſes; of all theſe the *Croſs Bath* is of a moſt mild and temperate Nature, having 12 ſeats of Stone in the ſides of it, and is incloſed within a Wall; The ſecond diſtant about 200 paces is much hotter, whence called the *Hot Bath*, adjoyning to which is the *Spittle* or *Lazar-Houſe*, for the relief of poor diſeaſed Perſons; The third and greateſt is called the *Kings Bath*, walled alſo round about with 32 Seats of Arched Work therein: This City is fortified with Walls, wherein are ſet Antique Images, and *Roman* Inſcriptions, and hath in it a fair large Cathedral Church.

The City of *Wells*, ſo called from the Springs or Wells that boil up there, hath a very beautiful Cathedral, near which there is a Spring called *St. Andrews Well*, from whence comes ſuch a confluence of Water, that it ſoon makes a ſwift brook; The Church is throughout very beautiful, but the Frontiſpiece of the Weſt-end is very excellent, for it riſeth up from the foot to the top all

of

of Imagery, carved in Stone of a curious and antique fashion, very artificially embowed. *Bristow* hath the River *Avon* passing through it, and was incompassed with a double Wall; it is beautiful with Buildings publick and private, and hath common Sewers or Sinks made to run under ground for the conveyance of all filthiness; There are within the City and Suburbs 26 fair Churches, whereof 18 are Parish-Churches; There is no Dunghill in all the City, nor Sink, all being conveyed under ground; they carry all upon Sleds without Carts; the water at the Key sometimes ebbs and flows 40 foot in height. This City is Populous, Rich and well Inhabited, and next to *London* and *York* may justly challenge the Superiority, having a very commodious Haven, which admits Ships under Sail into the very bosom thereof.

In this County K. *Arthur* was buried; for being murdered by *Mordred*, at *Cambula* near *Tintagel-Castle* in *Cornwall* as is aforementioned, he was carried from thence to *Glastenbury* in *Somersetshire*, and was there buried in 542. and 600 years after was found and taken up on this occasion: King *Henry* 2. in the last year of his Reign being at *Pembroke*, chanced to hear certain Songs in praise of the worthy Acts of King *Arthur*, sung by a *Welsh* Bard or Poet, to his Harp, wherein it is mentioned, that he was buried in *Glastenbury* Church-yard between two Pillars there standing; whereupon King *Henry* caused the ground to be digged, and at seven foot deep was found a huge broad Stone, whereon was fastened a leaden Cross; on the lower side of the Lead in rude and barbarous Characters was written, *Hic jacet*, &c. *Here lies K.* Arthur *buried in the Vale of* Avelone; And digging 9 foot deeper his Body was found in the Trunk of a Tree, the Bones very large, and in his skull were perceived ten wounds, one very great and plain; His Queen *Guenever*, a Lady of excellent beauty, lay by him, whose Hair curiously plaited, and of a golden colour, shewed perfect and whole till touched, but then it fell to ashes. The Cross of Lead with the Inscription was taken off,

and kept in *Glaſtenbury* Church, and the bones of King *Arthur* were put into a fair Tomb of Marble, and his Queen laid at his feet in the ſame Church; but were all raced at the general ſuppreſſion of Abbies by *Henry* the 8th.

In the 22 of Queen *Elizabeth* 1580. a ſtrange Apparition happened in *Somerſetſhire*, 60 Parſonages all clothed in black, a furlongs diſtance from thoſe that beheld them, who continued ſome time and then vaniſhed; and immediately another ſtrange company in like manner, number and colour appeared in the ſame place, and encountred each other, and then vaniſhed; and the 3d time appeared that number again all in bright Armour, and encountred one another, and ſo vaniſhed away; This was examined before Sir *George Norton*, and ſwore by four honeſt men, that ſaw it, to be true; In her 38th year, *Dec.* 5. being *Sunday*, a great number of People being aſſembled in the Cathedral Church of *Wells* in *Somerſetſhire*, in the fore-noon, during Sermon, a ſudden darkneſs fell among them, and a great Tempeſt with Thunder and Lightning followed, which threw the People on the ground; and all the Church ſeemed to be in a flame, and there was a loathſome ſtink, ſome Stones were ſtricken out of the Bell Tower, and the Wires and Iron of the Clock melted; the Tempeſt being over, and the people recovering their ſenſes, ſome of them were found marked with ſtrange Figures on their Bodies, and their Garments not periſhed, neither were any marked who ſtood in the Chancel. In *January* 1648. there was ſeen a great fiery Meteor in the Air near *Briſtol* on the South ſide of the City for divers nights together, long in ſhape, and ſhooting out fiery ſtreams Eaſt and Weſt; this happened, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, a week before the death of K. *Charles* 1. and I had it from an Eye-witneſs. In *Auguſt* 1655. a Carpenter living at *Pennard* in this County, went to a Fair at *Lidford* not many miles off to ſet up ſome Stalls; and left his Wife and four ſmall Children at home; but at his return he found all his four Children murthered, (the eldeſt being

about

bout nine years old) and put into a Cheſt; it was ſup-
poſed to be done by his Wife, the Childrens own Mo-
ther, becauſe ſhe was not to be found.

Wockey-hole in *Mendip* Hills, near two miles from *Wells*, is very remarkable; It is an underground concavity, admirable for its ſpacious Vaults, ſtony Walls, and creeping Labyrinths. I have been at, but never in this wonderful Cave, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, and therefore muſt uſe the deſcription of a Learned Eye-witneſs: *Entring and paſſing through a great part of it with many Lights, among many other ſtrange Rarities worth obſerving, we found*, ſaith he, *the water which continually dropped from the roof of the Rock made ſome impreſſion in it, but was not turned into Stone, as appeared by the ſhape, colour and hardneſs thereof, it being of a more clear and glaſſy ſubſtance than the Rock it ſelf, though doubtleſs in time it will turn to the ſame ſubſtance, and thereby the Rocks will be increaſed.*

John Courcy, Baron of *Stoke-Courcy* in this County was the firſt *Engliſhman* who ſubdued *Ulſter* in *Ireland*, and therefore deſervedly created Earl thereof; He was afterward ſurprized by *Hugh Lacy* (Corrival for his Title) ſent over into *England*, and impriſoned by King *John* in the *Tower*; after this a *French* Caſtle being in controverſy, was to have the Title thereof tryed by Combate, the Kings of *England* and *France* beholding it; *Courcy* who was of a lean lank Body with ſtaring Eyes, is ſent for out of the *Tower* to undertake the *Frenchman*, and becauſe weakened by Impriſonment, a large allowance of Victuals is given him to recruit his ſtrength; The Monſieur who was to fight with him, hearing how much he eat and drank, and gueſſing at his courage by his ſtomack, took him for a Canibal who would devour him, and was therefore afraid to encounter him; Afterward the two Kings being deſirous to ſee ſome proofs of *Courcies* ſtrength, cauſed a ſteel Helmet to be laid on a block before him; *Courcy* looking about him with a ſter rand grim countenance, as if he intended to cut it with his eyes as well as with his Armes, cut the Helmet in two pieces at one blow, ſtriking his Sword ſo deep into the

wood alſo, that none but himſelf could pull it out again; Being demanded the cauſe why he looked ſo ſternly, he replied, *Had I failed of my purpoſe, I would have killed the two Kings, and all the reſt in the place*; Words well ſpoken, becauſe well taken, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, all Perſons preſent being then highly in good humour. He died in *France* 1210.

The County of *Somerſet* is divided into 42 Hundreds, wherein are 30 Market-Towns, 385 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Bath-and-Wells*; It elects 18 Parliament-men, and gives the Title of Duke to *Charles* L. *Seymour*; *Bath* the Title of Earl to *John* L. *Greenville*, and *Briſtol* to *John* L. *Digby*, *Bridgwater* to *John* L. *Egerton*.

STAFFORDSHIRE hath *Cheſhire* on the North, *Darbyſhire* on the Eaſt, *Warwick* and *Worceſter ſhires* on the South, and *Shropſhire* on the Weſt. The Commodities of this County conſiſt chiefly in Corn, Cattle, Alabaſter, Wood, Iron, Pitcoal and Fiſh, whereof the River *Trent* is very full; *Stafford* Town was built by King *Edward* the Elder, incorporated by King *John*; *Litchfield* is far greater, and of much more fame, it is a very ancient City known to Reverend *Bede* by the name of *Lichidfield*, that is, *The Field of dead Bodies*, by reaſon of the number of Chriſtians there Martyr'd in the bloody Perſecution of *Diocleſian*; The City is low ſeated, of a good largeneſs and fair withall, divided into two parts by a ſhallow Pool of clear water, which are joyned by two Bridges made over them, having ſluces to let out the water; the South part is the greater, conſiſting of divers Streets, having in it a School, and an Hoſpital of St. *John*, founded for the relief of the Poor; The farther part is the leſs, but beautified with a goodly Cathedral Church, which is incompaſſed with a very fair Wall like a Caſtle; this Church mounteth up on high with three Pyramids or Spires of Stone, making an excellent ſhew, and for elegant and proportionable building yieldeth to few Cathedrals in *England*, but by the late confuſions it was much defaced.

In

In the 35*th* of Queen *Elizabeth*, 1591. there was a great Tempeſt in *Staffordſhire*, whereby the ſhaft of the Steeple in *Stafford* Town was rent in pieces all along through the middle, and thrown upon the Church, wherewith the roof was ſo ſhattered, that a 1000 pound would not repair it; Many Houſes and Barns were overthrown in divers places in that Shire; In *Cauck Wood* above 3000 Trees were blown down, and likewiſe more than 50 Steeples; ſoon after there was a ſtrong North-wind, and a very great rain, which continued 24 hours. In 1662. *July* 30. between two and three a clock in the afternoon there happened a great ſtorm at *Eardly* in this County, accompanied with Thunder, which made ſuch a continual ſtrange noiſe in the Air, that it ſtruck a terror into all that heard it, of which there was no intermiſſion for a long time; alſo there fell a ſhower of Hailſtones as big as Hens Eggs, ſome 5, 6 and 7 Inches about; I my ſelf, ſaith the Relator, meaſured one after the Storm was over, and a good part of it melted, yet then it was five inches about; There was a Gentleman who meaſured ſome of them by a good big Watch, and they were full as big as it; within half a mile of this place the Hailſtones lay upon the ground a quarter of a yard thick; there was a Man getting in a Load of Hay, and his Horſes, as well as all others, would not be ruled, but ran about as mad, which forced the man to continue in the ſtorm, and his back, ſhoulders and armes were black and blew with the Hail; it did much hurt to the Barley, and ſtruck it out of the Ear as if threſhed; it beat down other Corn as it ſtood on the ground all to pieces, it alſo killed abundance of Fowl; Sheep, and Lambs; ſome of the Hailſtones taſted ſalt, like *Sal-Prunella*, and were kept long after without being at all waſted; The people were very much amazed, and the continual ſtrange noiſe in the Air was very terrible to them.

In the year 1669. *July* 31. There was a great dark cloud ſeen to ariſe in the Eaſt, not far from *Litchfield*, which drawing nearer to the City, came over it about

noon,& then appeared to be a huge number of Ant-flies, ſo thick that they darkned the Sky; and it being Market-day there, they fell down in great abundance, ſo that they filled the very Houſes; the People both within and without doors were much bitten or ſtung with them, yea the very Horſes were ſo diſturbed with them, that they ran about as if wild; The Market People were ſo plauged with them, that they were forced to pack up and be gone; People were driven out of the Fields from their Harveſt-work; and thus they continued 2 or 3 hours, multitudes of them falling dead, and lying ſo thick in the Streets, that whole handfuls of them might be taken up, and the People ſwept them in heaps; The remainder took their flight Northward, and moleſted other places: This was atteſted, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, by many Eye-witneſſes.

The County of *Stafford* is divided into 5 Hundreds, wherein are 18 Market Towns, 130 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Coventry* and *Litchfield*; It elects 10 Parliament-Men; *Litchfield* gives the Title of Earl to *Edw. Henry Lee.*

SUFFOLK hath *Norfolk* on the North, *Cambridgſhire* on the Weſt, the *German* Ocean on the Eaſt, and *Eſſex* on the South; It abounds in Corn, Cattle, Paſtures, Cloth, Wood, Sea-Fiſh and Fowl; their Cheeſes are Traded into *Germany*, *France* and *Spain*; *Ipſwich* is the only Eye of this Shire both for Commerce and Buildings, it hath been formerly walled as by the ruines appears, but probably raiſed by the *Danes*, who in 991. plundered all the Sea-Coaſts, and in the year of 1000. they laid the Streets of the Town deſolate, and the Houſes on heaps; yet after recovering both breath and beauty, her buildings from *Stoke-Church* in the South to St. *Margrets* in the North, now extend to 1900 paces, and from St. *Hellens* in the Eaſt to St. *Matthews* Church in the Weſt is 2120 paces. It hath 12 Pariſh Churches, beſides ſix gone to ruine.

In the Reign of King *Henry* 2. 1180. near *Orford* in this County certain Fiſhers took in their Nets a Fiſh, having

having the shape of a man in all parts, which Fish was kept by *Bartholomew de Glanvile* in the Castle of *Orford* above six months, he spake not a word; all manner of meats he gladly eat, but most greedily raw Fish when he had pressed out the Juice; he was oftimes brought to Church, but never shewed any sign of Devotion; at length being not well looked to, he stole to the Sea, and was never seen after. In the Reign of K. *John* 1216. one casualty happened, which we might count disasterous, if it had not had relation to our selves; For *Hugh de Bones* coming to aid K. *John* with 60000 *French men*, they were all cast away at Sea, to whom the King had granted *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* to Inhabit. *Thomas Woolsey* was born in *Ipswich*, where a Butcher, a very honest man was his Father, though a Poet, be thus pleased to descant thereon.

Brave Priest, whoever was thy Sire by kind,
Wolsey *of* Ipswitch *ne're begat thy mind.*

Yet he was sometimes upbraided with the meanes of his birth, even when he was Cardinal, for one time a Noble man who was very merry, but very extravagant, having newly sold a Town with an hundred Tenements, came huffing into the Court with a new suit of Cloaths, and said, *Am not I a mighty man that have an Hundred Houses on my back*; which Cardinal *Wolsey* hearing, replyed, *You might have better imployed it in paying your debts*; *Indeed my Lord*, quoth he, *you say well, for I remember, my Lord, my Father owed my Master your Father three-half-pence for a Calves head*; *hold your hand, here is two-pence for it.* He was one of such vast undertakings, as the History thereof would almost require a volume: He was made Cardinal of St. *Cicely*, and died heart-broken with grief at *Leicester* 1530. without any Monument, which made Dr. *Corbet* a great wit of his own Colledge (*Christ-Church* in *Oxford*) thus complain:

And though from his own store Wolsey *might have*
A Palace or a Colledge for his Grave;

Yet here he lies inter'd as if that all
Of him to be remembred were his fall.
Nothing but Earth to Earth; no pompous weight
Upon him, but a pebble or a quait;
If thou art thus neglected, what ſhall we
Hope after Death, that are but ſhreds of thee?

It is reported that being afraid of the Anger of K. *Henry* 8. he took ſuch a ſtrong Purge, that his rotten body being not able to bare it, he died thereof, and that his body was as black as pitch, and ſo heavy, that ſix men could hardly carry it, and ſtunk ſo intolerably, that they were forced to bury him in the night, at which time there was ſuch a hideous Tempeſt, that all the Torches were put out, and withal ſuch a ſtink, that they were glad to throw him into his Tomb, and there leave him.

In the 2. of Queen *Mary* 1555. in *Auguſt*, at a place in *Suffolk*, by the Seaſide, all of hard ſtone, and pebble, between *Orford* and *Aldborough*, where never graſs grew, or earth was ever ſeen, there ſuddenly ſprung up without any Tillage or Sowing, ſo great abundance of Peaſe, that the poor gathered above an 100 quarters, yet there remained ſome ripe and ſome bloſſoming which brought down the price of Corn, there being a great dearth before by reaſon of unſeaſonable weather. In the 10th of Queen *Elizabeth* 1568. 17 monſtrous Fiſhes were taken at *Downham* Bridge, near *Ipſwich*, ſome of them being 27 Foot in length. In her 19th year, *Aug.* 4. being *Sunday* about 10 before noon, whilſt the Miniſter was Preaching at *Bliborough* in *Suffolk*, happened a ſtrange and terrible Tempeſt of Lightning and Thunder, which ſtruck through the wall of the Church almoſt a yard deep into the ground, throwing down above 20 Perſons, rending the wall up to the Veſtry, cleaving the door, tearing the Timber, and breaking the Chains of the Steeple; the People that were ſtruck down lay above half an hour before they recovered, a Man and Boy were found ſtark dead, and the reſt miſerably ſcorched.

ched. In the 6th of K. *James* 1609. St. *Edmundsbury* being by chance set on fire, it consumed 160 Houses, but by the Kings bounty giving 500 load of Timber, and the relief of the City of *London*, it was soon re-built in fairer Manner than before.

Suffolk is divided into 22 Hundreds, wherein are 29 Market Towns, 575 Parish Churches, and is in the Diocess of *Norwich*; It elects 16 Parliament Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *James* L. *Howard*, as *Clare* doth to *Gilbert* L. *Holles*.

SURREY hath *Middlesex* on the North, *Kent* on the East, *Sussex* on the South, *Hant* and *Bark shires* on the West; the Skirts and Borders of this County are rich and fruitful, but the inward part thereof very hungry and barren, though by reason of the clear Air, and clean wayes, it is full of many Gentile Habitations; it hath good Box, Walnuts, Fullers Earth and Corn; excellent Tapestry is also used at *Moreclack* in this County; *Kingston* was formerly the seat of many Kings, and *Gilford* hath been much larger, being formerly the Royal Mansion of divers *Saxon* Monarchs; There are two most beautiful Palaces in this Shire, *Richmond* and *Nonsuch*; The Medicinal Waters at *Ebsham* or *Epsum*, are much frequented, which were found out about 1618. upon this occasion; One *Henry Wicker*, in a dry Summer, and great want of water for Cattle, discovered some water standing in the footing of some beast, he at first suspected it to be their Urine, but was quickly confuted by the clearness thereof, he therefore with his staff digged a square hole about it, and so departed; returning next day, he could hardly find the place in so wide a Common; at last he found the hole running over with most clear water, which the Cattle, though very thirsty, would not drink of, as having a Mineral Taste. It is concluded to run through some veins of *Allom*, and at first was used only for healing outward sores, which it performed, but since hath been inwardly taken, and with good effect in many diseases; The convenient distance from *London* addeth to the reputation of these waters,

and

and no wonder if Citizens coming thither from the *worst of Smoaks* into the *best of Airs*, find in themselves a perfect alteration.

There is a River in this County, which at a place called the *Swallow*, sinketh into the Earth, and riseth again some two Miles off, near *Leatherhead*, which the Country People say was experimented in a Goose, which was put in and came out again alive, though without Feathers: Nor may we forget a Vault nigh *Rygate* of very fine Sand, capable of receiving 500 men, which Castle under ground was in ancient time the Mansion of some great Person, having several Rooms therein: If it be meerly *natural*, it doth curiously imitate *Art*; if purely *artificial*, it doth most lively represent *Nature*.

We read that K. *Edward* 3. that glorious Conqueror, after he had reigned 50 years and 4 months, being in the 60th year of his Age, 1377. fell into his last sickness at *Richmond*, where when he was observed to be drawing on, his Concubine *Alice Pierce* came to his Bed-side, and took the Royal Rings from his Fingers, and leaving him gasping for breath, went away; The Knights, Esquires, and Officers of his Court, rifled whatever they could, and hasted away also; only a poor Priest lamenting the Kings Misery, that amongst all his Counsellors and Servants there was none to assist him in his last Moments, entred his Chamber, exhorting the King to lift up his Eyes and Hands to God, to repent him of his sins, and to implore the Mercy of Heaven, and its forgiveness; the King had before quite lost his Speech, but at these words taking strength, uttered his mind, though imperfectly, in these matters, and made signs of contrition, wherein his voice and speech failed him, and scarce pronouncing this word *Jesu*, yielded up the Ghost. In 1491. King *Henry* 7. held solemn Justing at *Richmond*, which continued for a Month; wherein Sir *James Parker* running against Mr. *Hugh Vaughan*, by reason of a faulty Helmet he was struck into the mouth at the first course, so that his Tongue was thrust into the hinder part of his Head, and died immediately in the place.

In

In 1602. Q. *Elizabeth* feeling ſome Infirmities of old Age and Sickneſs, retired her ſelf to *Richmond*, at which time, as a ſad Omen, ſhe commanded the Ring to be filed off her Finger, wherewith ſhe was ſolemnly at firſt inaugurated into the Kingdom, and ſince that time had never taken it off, it being grown into the Fleſh in ſuch a manner, that it could not be drawn off without filing; at the beginning of her ſickneſs the Almonds of her Jaws began to ſwell, her Appetite to fail her, and ſhe was very melancholy, which ſome imputed to her loſs of *Eſſex*, others becauſe ſhe heard that divers of the Nobility ſought the favour of the K. of *Scots*, adoring him as the riſing Sun, and neglecting her; but however a numneſs ſeiſed her, and ſhe would diſcourſe with none but Dr. *Whitgift* A.B. of *Canterbury*, with whom ſhe prayed fervently till her Speech failed her; which was a day before her death; ſhe being ſo ill, it was thought fit the Secretary and Admiral ſhould go to her, and know her mind concerning a Succeſſour; to whom ſhe anſwered, *My Throne hath been the Throne of Kings, I would have no mean Perſon ſucceed me.* The Secretary requeſting her to ſpeak more plainly, *I will*, ſaid ſhe, *have a King ſucceed me, and what King but the King of* Scots, *my neareſt Kinſman?* After this the Archbiſhop exhorting her to think upon God, *That I do*, ſaid ſhe, *nor do my thoughts ever wander from him.* And when her Tongue no longer ſerved her, it was evident by the lifting up of her Hands and Eyes, that her thoughts were fixed upon him; and ſo on the 24*th* of *March*, being the laſt day of the Year 1602. ſhe yielded up her Soul to God, when ſhe had lived 69 Years, 6 Months, and 7 Days, whereof ſhe had reigned 44 Years, 4 Months. Her Body was embalmed, wrapped in Lead, and brought to *White-Hall*, from whence *April* 28. following, it was buried at *Weſtminſter* Abby; at which time the City of *Weſtminſter* was ſurcharged with a multitude of all ſorts of People in the Streets, Houſes, Windows and Leads, who came to ſee the Funeral; and when they beheld her Statue lying in Royal Robes, with a Crown upon her Head, there was

ſuch

ſuch a general ſighing, groaning and weeping, as the like hath not been ſeen nor known in the memory of man, neither doth any Hiſtory mention any People, time, or ſtate to make the like lamentation for the death of their Soveraign. It is ſaid there were 1600 Mourners in black at her Funeral.

Thomas Cromwell was born at *Putney* in *Surrey*, his Father was a Blackſmith, and therefore could beſtow no great matter on his Education, yet ſuch was his wit and activity, that he made his own Fortune; He was in the ſervice of Cardinal *Wolſey*, after whoſe death he is recommended to K. *Henry* 8. who finding the quickneſs of his underſtanding, adviſed with him in many difficult matters, and upon occaſion he informed the King how his Princely Authority was abuſed by the Pope and his Clergy, who being ſworn to him, were afterward diſpenſed with and ſworn anew to the Pope, ſo that he was but half a King, *&c.* He alſo ſhewed him, that the Clergy by their Oath were fallen into a *Premunire*, and their Goods, Lands, Chattels and Poſſeſſions were fallen to the King; which he afterward demonſtrated to the Biſhops to be true, who gave the King above an hundred thouſand pound for Compoſition; after this by his perſuaſion the King ſuppreſſed all the Abbies and Monaſteries in *England*, and commanded the Bible to be Printed and read in the *Engliſh* Tongue, and the Biſhop of *Romes* Power was by ſeveral Statutes aboliſhed in *England*; however divers of the *Popiſh* Biſhops and Clergy privately endeavoured to reſtore it again, which he was always aware of, and therefore calling his Servants together, he diſcovered to them in what a ſlippery condition he ſtood, conſidering the variable affections of the King, and the malice and ſubtlety of his *Popiſh* Adverſaries, and therefore required them to be very circumſpect, leſt by their default any quarrel might be pickt againſt him; and ſoon after ſome falſe witneſſes accuſed him of Hereſy, and of ſpeaking ſome words againſt the King; yet his Enemies durſt not bring him to his anſwer, nor try him by his Peers, but procured an

Act

Act of Attainder, whereby he was condemned before he was heard, and the King not long after his death repented his haſt, wiſhing, *That he had his* Cromwell *alive again.* When he came upon the Scaffold at *Tower-hill*, he ſpake thus to the People: *I come hither to die, and not to purge my ſelf, as ſome perhaps may expect I ſhould; I am by the Law condemned to dye, and I thank my Lord that hath appointed me this death for mine offences, for I have always lived a Sinner, and offended my Lord God, for which I ask him hearty forgiveneſs; It is not unknown to many of you that I was a great Traveller, and being but of mean Parentage was called to high Eſtate, and now I have offended my Prince, for which I heartily ask him forgiveneſs, beſeeching you to pray with me to Almighty God that he will forgive me. And once again I deſire you to pray for me, that ſo long as life remaineth in this fleſh, I may waver nothing in my Faith.* Then kneeling down on his knees, he made an excellent Prayer, concluding thus, *Grant O moſt merciful Father, that when death ſhall ſhut up the Eyes of my Body, yet the Eyes of my Soul may ſtill behold and look upon thee; and when death hath taken away the uſe of my Tongue, yet my Heart may cry and ſay unto thee, Lord into thy hands I commend my Soul, Lord Jeſus receive my Soul,* Amen. Having ended his Prayer, he made a Divine exhortation to thoſe on the Scaffold, and then quietly gave up his Spirit, 1541. Upon his Monument was Ingraven Cromwell, *ſurnamed the Great, whom* Wolſey *firſt raiſed from the Forge to eminent good Fortunes, whom* Henry 8. *uſed as his Inſtrument to ſuppreſs the Popes Supremacy, and to diſſolve Religious Structures, whom he advanced to the higheſt pitch of Honour and Authority, whom he caſt down ſuddenly, and bereft both of Life and Dignities, lies here Interred.*

Surrey is divided into 13 Hundreds, wherein are ſeven Market Towns (beſides *Southwark*, which keeps the ſame with *London*) 140 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Wincheſter*; It elects 14 Parliament-Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Henry* L. *Howard*, who is alſo Duke of *Norfolk*.

SUS-

SUSSEX hath *Surrey* on the N. *Kent* on the E. the Sea on the S. and *Hantſhire* on the W. The Soil is rich, but ill for Travellers in the Winter, the Land lying low, and the ways being deep; the middle Tract is adorned with Meadows, Paſtures and Cornfields, the Sea-Coaſt with Hills called the *Downs*, abundantly yielding both Corn and Graſs, and the Northſide is overſhadowed with Groves and thick Woods, called the *Weald*, where ſometimes was the famous Wood called *Andradſwald*, 120 miles in length, memorable for the death of *Sigebert* King of the *Weſt Saxons*, who being depoſed, was ſtabbed in this place by a Swine-heard. *Chicheſter* in this County is a large and beautiful City, very well walled about, a little River running hard by it on the Weſt; It hath four Gates, from whence the Streets lead directly, and croſs themſelves in the middle, where in a fair Market-Houſe of Stone, ſupported with Pillars round about the Market is kept; between the Weſt and South Gates ſtands the Cathedral Church, not very great, but handſom and neat, having a Spire Steeple of Stone riſing a great height; It is the Reſidence of the Biſhop, and has often ſuffered by Fire; It was firſt built by *Ciſſa*, the ſecond King of the *South Saxons*, wherein he kept his Royal Court. *Lewes* ſeems to contend with *Chicheſter* for Populouſneſs, largeneſs, and buildings, where King *Athelſton* appointed a Mint for his Money; and *William de Warren* Earl of *Surrey*, who came into *England* with *William* the Conqueror, built a ſtrong Caſtle, and founded an Abby there; It is recorded that *Edw.*1. in the 8*th* year of his Reign 1282. ſent out his Writ of *Quo Warranto*, through *England*, to examine by what Title men held their Lands and Eſtates, which brought him in much money, till *John E. Warren*, Succeſſor to this *William*, being called to ſhew his Title, drew out an old ruſty Sword, and then ſaid, he held it by that, and by that he would hold it till death; which cauſed the King to deſiſt from proceeding any further in that Project. In King *Henry* 3. time, the ſame *John Earl Warren* had the

the confidence to kill *Zouch Allen*, Lord Chief Juſtice with his own hands upon the Bench in *Weſtminſter-Hall*; ſo much did he preſume upon his great favour with the King. In the Barons Wars with this King, the Lords got into this Caſtle of *Lewes*, and not far off fought a great Battle, wherein the King had his Horſe ſhot under him, and was taken Priſoner with his Brother and Son.

In the year 1058. *Harold* putting to Sea in a ſmall Boat for his pleaſure from *Boſeham* his manner in *Suſſex*, and having unſkilful Marriners, was driven upon the Coaſts of *Normandy*, whereby Duke *William* he was detained till he had ſworn to make him King of *England*, if *Edward* the *Confeſſor* died without Children; yet afterward without any regard to his Oath he placed himſelf on the Throne. Duke *William* hereupon arrived at *Pemſey*, and with his Sword revenged the perjury of *Harold* at *Battle* in this County with ſuch ſeverity, that there fell 67974 *Engliſh* Men that day, the Conqueror putting himſelf thereby into full poſſeſſion of the whole Kingdom; over which he Reigned 22 years, being victorious both at home and abroad; but to diſcover the vanity of all earthly things, it ſometimes happens, that ſome great Perſons are not ſuffered to go to reſt when their Bed is made, and others are pulled out of thoſe Lodgings whereof they had once taken peaceable poſſeſſion; as appears very fully in the following Relation.

No ſooner had the ſoul of this victorious Prince *William the Conqueror* left his Body, but that his dead Corps was abandonned by his Nobles and Followers, and by his meaner Servants he was ſtript of Armour, Veſſels, Apparel, and all Princely Furniture, his naked Body left upon the floor, and his Funerals wholly neglected, till one *Harlwin* a poor Country Knight undertook to carry his Corps to St. *Stephens* Church to *Caen* in *Normandy*, which the dead King had formerly founded; At his enterance into *Caen*, the Covent of Monks came forth to meet him, but at the ſame inſtant there happened a great Fire, ſo that as his Corps before, ſo now his

Hearſe

Hearſe was forſaken of all men, every one running to quench the Fire; That done, they return and carry the Corps to the Church; The Funeral Sermon being ended, and the ſtone Coffin ſet in the Earth in the Chancel, as the body was ready to be laid therein, there ſtood up one *Anſelm*, and forbid the Burial, alledging, that that very place was the floor of his Fathers Houſe, which this dead King had violently taken from him to build this Church upon, *Therefore*, ſaid he, *I challenge this ground, and in the name of God forbid, that the Body of this Oppreſſor and diſpoyler be covered with the Earth of mine Inheritance*: They were therefore forced to compound with him for an hundred pounds; now was the body to be laid in that ſtone Coffin, but the Tomb proved too little for the Corps, ſo that preſſing it down to gain an entrance, the Belly not bowelled, brake, and ſent forth ſuch an intolerable ſtink among the Aſſiſtants at the Funeral, that all the Gums and Spices fuming in their Cenſers could not relieve them, but all in great amazement haſtened away, leaving only a Monk or two to ſhuffle up the Burial, which they performed with all poſſible haſt, and ſo got to their Cells; yet was not this the laſt of thoſe Troubles that the Corps of this great Prince met with, but ſome years after at ſuch time as *Caen* was taken by the *French*, his Tomb was rifled, his bones thrown out, and ſome of them by private Soldiers brought as far as *England* again; ſo that if we conſider his many troubles in life, and after his death, we may well think, that notwithſtanding all his greatneſs, a very mean man could hardly be perſuaded to change Fortunes with him. In his Tomb there was found a Plate of Braſs, whereon this Epitaph was Ingraven:

He that the ſturdy Normans *rul'd, & o're the Engliſh reign'd*
And ſtoutly won, and ſtrongly kept what ſo he had obtain'd;
And did his Valiant Enemies by force bring under awe,
And made them under his Command live ſubject to his Law:
This great K. William *lieth here, intomb'd in little Grave;*
So great a Lord, ſo ſmall a Houſe ſufficeth him to have.

Suſſex

Suſſex is divided into ſix Rapes, wherein are 65 Hundreds, 16 Market-Towns, 312 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Chicheſter*; It abounds much in caſt Iron; elects 20 Parliament-Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Thomas* L. *Leonard*, Married to *Ann Fitz-Roy*, eldeſt Daughter to the D. of *Cleaveland*; *Winchelſea* that of Earl to *Heneage* L. *Finch*, *Arundel* to *Hen.* L. *Howard*.

WARWICKSHIRE hath *Leiceſter* and *Northampton ſhires* on the Eaſt, *Oxford* and *Gloceſter ſhires* on the South, *Worceſter* on the Weſt, and *Staffordſhire* on the North thereof; it hath a very good air and ſoil, wanting nothing for the pleaſure or profit of man, and yieldeth plenty of Corn, eſpecially *The Vale of the Red Horſe*, ſo called from the ſhape of a Horſe cut out in a red hill by the Inhabitants thereabout; it abounds alſo in Malt, Iron, Wood and Wool; it hath many fair Towns, and ſome of them hardly to be matcht in *England*, the chiefeſt whereof is *Coventry*, ſo called *a Tribus Conventibus*, from the three Covents that were in it, commodiouſly ſeated, and has been fortified with very ſtrong Walls, with 13 ſtately Gates, and 18 Towers for defence; a little River runs through it; many fair and beautiful Houſes are therein, among which there riſe up on high two Churches of rare Workmanſhip, in the midſt is the Croſs or Pillar of Stone of very curious and coſtly Architecture: The Citizens of this Town having in former Ages highly offended their great Lord *Leofrick*, had their Priviledges ſeized upon, and themſelves oppreſſed with many heavy burdens and Taxes; But his Wife the Lady *Godiva* pitying their condition, continually interceeded with her Lord for their Releaſe and Freedom, and that with ſuch importunity, that it could hardly be determined which was greateſt, his hatred, or her love; at laſt the Earl being overcome with her continual interceſſions, he granted her deſire, but upon ſuch a condition as he thought ſhe would never perform, which was, that ſhe would ride ſtark naked through *Coventry*, at noon-day, from one end to the other; though this was very hard for a modeſt Lady, yet however ſhe thank-

thankfully accepted his Grant, and ſtripping her ſelf of all her Attire, let looſe the large and beautiful Treſſes of her Hair, which on every ſide ſo covered her naked Body, that no part thereof was uncivil to be ſeen, whereby ſhe redeemed their former Liberties, and freed them from their grievous Impoſitions.

Warwick is the next Town of Account and Commerce in this Shire, it ſtandeth over the River *Avon* upon a ſteep and high Rock, and all the paſſages to it are wrought out of the very ſtone, the River on the South-ſide is checked with a moſt ſumptuous and ſtately Caſtle ſtanding high upon a Rock, invironed with a ſtrong Wall, whereon is a noble Gatehouſe, and three high ſtrong Towers, called *Cæſars Tower*, *Guyes Tower*, and the *Iron Tower*, in all which are very fine Lodgings, and a great Bulwark; There are two fair Churches in the Town, and it is adorned with handſome Houſes, which the Poet thus deſcribes:

A place of ſtrength and health; in the ſame Fort,
You would conceive a Caſtle and a Court;
The Orchards, Gardens, Rivers, and the Air,
May with the Trenches, Rampires, Walls compare.
It ſeems no Art, no Force can intercept it,
As if a Lover built, a Soldier kept it.

Twelve miles hence is *Alceſter*, a very Ancient Market Town, which formerly was much bigger, probably it was a Garriſon of the *Romans*, ſince in Plowing and digging many ancient Copper pieces of Mony are found to this day, one of which, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, of *Veſpaſians* with *Judea Capta*, or *Judea Conquered*, upon it I have by me: He proceeds; 'When I was Rector there, about 1638. my 'Neighbour whoſe Houſe was next the Church-yard, 'being about to dig a Cellar, I lent him one of my men to 'aſſiſt him, who digging about four foot deep, they met 'with two Urns or Earthen Pots, not far aſunder, in one 'there was nothing but aſhes, in the other were Me-'dals ſet edg-long as full as it could be thruſt; my man 'judging it to be only that Copper Mony which they

'find

'find ſo oft about the Town, ſet it careleſly upon the 'Ground by him: and the Town conſiſting of Knitters, 'ſome of them coming to ſee the work, picked out ſome 'pieces of this Mony; at laſt one brought in a piece to 'me, which upon Trial I found to be ſilver, and there-'upon ſent for the Pot into my houſe, and being loth to 'break the Pot, with the help of a Cheſel I got all out of 'it; in the midſt thereof I found 16 pieces of Gold, 'as bright as if they had been lately put in, and about '800 pieces of ſilver, and yet no two alike, and the la-'teſt of them above 1400 years old; they contained the 'whole Hiſtory of the *Roman* Empire, from *Julius Cæſar* 'till after *Conſtantine the great*; each of the ſilver pieces 'weighed about 7 *d.* and each of the Gold about 15 or '16 ſhillings; I took ſome few of the Silver, and one of 'the Gold pieces; and ſent the reſt to the Lady of *Ro-'bert* L. *Brook*, who is Lord of the Town.

At *Shugbury* in this County, at a place called *Barnhill*, the precious ſtone *Aſtroites* is found in great plenty, which being put into Vinegar, will move up and down till they have compoſed themſelves into a Triangle. At *Offchurch* was the Palace of *Offa* the great *Mercian* King. At *Lemington*, though far from the Sea, a ſpring of Salt-Water boileth up; and at *Newnham* is a Fountain whoſe Waters are very Soveraign againſt the Stone, Green-Wounds, Ulcers and Impoſtumes, and being drunk with Salt looſens, but with Sugar binds the Body; it was found out by one *Charles Daws* in 1579. who having received a great wound in his Arm by a Hatchet, it was perfectly cured in a few days, by waſhing it in this Water; one ſpecial effect thereof is, that it turneth wood into ſtone. Not far from *Warwick* is *Guy* Caſtle, where the famous *Guy* Earl of *Warwick* after many valorous exploits retired, and led an Hermits Life, and was at laſt buried in a Chappel there, which remains to this day. *Michael Drayton*, the famous *Engliſh* Poet, was born at *Athelſton* in this County, and died 1621. of whom this Epitaph was made.

Do pious Marble, let thy Readers know
What they, and what their Children owe
To Drayton's *name, whoſe ſacred Duſt*
We recommend unto thy Truſt.
Protect his memory, and preſerve his ſtory,
Remain a laſting Monument of his Glory;
And when thy Ruines ſhall diſclaim
To be the Treaſurer of his Name,
His Name that cannot fade muſt be
An everlaſting Monument to thee.

The County of *Warwick* is divided into 5 Hundreds, wherein are 15 Market Towns, 158 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Litchfield* and *Worceſter*; it elects 6 Parliament Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Edward* L. *Rich.*

WESTMORELAND hath *Cumberland* on the Weſt and North, *Lancaſhire* on the South, *York-ſhire* and *Durham* on the Eaſt: It is a Weſtern Mooriſh Country, from whence it hath its Name. The ſoil thereof for the moſt part is barren, and can hardly be made fruitful by the Induſtry of the Huſbandman. *Kendal* the chief Town hath a very great Trade and Reſort, with two broad and long ſtreets croſſing each other, herein are made excellent cloths, which are very well eſteemed of throughout the Kingdom: Places moſt memorable are *Verteræ* and *Appleby*, famous in the time of the *Romans*, but ſince very much decayed: There is mention but of one Monaſtery in this County, near the River *Loder*, where there is a Spring that Ebbs and Flows many times a day, and it is thought that ſome notable and famous Exploit hath been performed in that place, there being many huge ſtones in the form of Pyramids, ſome 9 foot high, and 14 Foot thick, ranged directly on a Line at an equal diſtance for a Mile together, which ſeems to have been placed there as a memorial, but of what Action there is not the leaſt remembrance.

At *Ambleſide* near the upper corner of *Winander Meer*, which

which is a great Water, there appears at this day the Ruines of an ancient City, which by the *Brittiſh* Bricks, the *Roman* Money often there found, by paved Highways leading to it, and other circumſtances ſeems to have been a work of the *Romans*; The Fortreſs fenced with a Ditch and Rampart was in length 132 Ells, and in breadth 8. In the River *Can*, near *Kendal*, are two *Waterfals*, where the Water deſcends with ſo great a downfall as cauſes a mighty noiſe, from whence the neighbouring Inhabitants prognoſticate of the Weather; for when that on the North ſounds more clear, and with a louder Eccho in their Ears, they certainly look for fair Weather to follow; but when that on the South doth the like, they expect foggy Miſts and Rain.

Henry Curwin was born in this County, and made by Q. *Mary* A. B. of *Dublin*. It is obſervable, that though many of the Proteſtant Clergy in *Ireland* were impriſoned and much moleſted, yet no one Perſon of what quality ſoever did ſuffer Martyrdom therein, and hereon depends a remarkable ſtory which hath been ſolemnly avouched by the late Reverend Dr. *Uſher* A. B. of *Armagh*; that about the 3d of Q. *Mary* a Purſivant was ſent with a Commiſſion into *Ireland*, to impower ſome eminent Perſons to proceed with Fire and Fagot againſt poor Proteſtants: It happened by Divine Providence this Purſivant coming to *Cheſter*, lodged in the Houſe of a Proteſtant Inn-keeper, who having ſome ſecret notice of his buſineſs, privately took the Commiſſion out of his Cloak-Bag, and put the *Knave of Clubs* in the room of it; ſome Weeks after the Purſivant appeared before the Lords of the Privy Council at *Dublin*, of whom Biſhop *Curwin* was Principal, where he produced a Card inſtead of a pretended Commiſſion; for which affront they cauſed him to be committed to Priſon, as ſuppoſed to be done on deſign to deride them, where he lay 4 Months, and at laſt with much ado got his Inlargement; then over he returned into *England*, and quickly getting his Commiſſion renewed, goes with all ſpeed into *Ireland* again; but before his Arrival there, he is prevented

with

with the News of Q. *Marys* Death, and ſo the Lives of many, and the Liberties of more poor Servants of God were preſerved. This Biſhop *Curwin* died 1567.

Weſtmoreland is divided into 4 Wards, wherein are 8 Market-Towns, 26 Pariſh-Churches, and is in the Dioceſſes of *Cheſter* and *Carlile*; It elects 4 Parliament-Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Fane*.

WILTSHIRE hath *Gloceſterſhire* on the North, *Berk-ſhire* and *Hampſhire* on the Eaſt, *Dorſetſhire* on the South, and *Somerſetſhire* on the Weſt, both for Hills and Valleys abounding in Wood, Sheep, Wool, and all things elſe; *Salisbury* is the chief City therein, in which there is a ſtately and beautiful Cathedral, with an exceeding high ſpired Steeple, not founded on the ground, but on 4 Pillars; The Windows of the Church, as they reckon them, anſwer juſt in number to Days, the Pillars great and ſmall to the Hours, and the Gates to the Twelve Months of the whole Year, according to the Poet.

How many Days in one whole Year there be,
So many Windows in one Church we ſee:
So many Marble Pillars there appear,
As there are Hours throughout the fleeting Year;
So many Gates as Moons one Year doth view:
Strange Tale to tell, yet not ſo ſtrange as true.

It hath a Cloiſter beſide on the South-ſide, for largeneſs and fine Workmanſhip inferiour to none, joined to the Biſhops Palace; on the other ſide is an high Bell-Tower exceeding ſtrong, ſtanding by it ſelf; There are Rills and Sewers of Water run through every ſtreet of the City, which is very well inhabited and accommodated with plenty of all things, eſpecially Fiſh; it is adorned with a very ſtately Market-place, wherein ſtandeth their Common Hall of Timber-work, a very handſome building. About 6 miles from *Salisbury* upon the Plains, is to be ſeen a huge and monſtrous piece of Work; for within the circuit of a Pit or Ditch there are erected in the

the manner of a Crown, certain mighty and unwrought ſtones, whereof ſome are 20 Foot high, and 7 broad, upon the heads whereof others like overthwart pieces do bear, and reſt croſs-wiſe with Tenents and Morteſſes ſo that the whole frame ſeemeth to hang, whereof it is commonly called *Stone-henge*. Near *Badmington* is a place called *The Giants Cave*, whereof there are 9 in number, ſome deeper than others, being two great long ſtones on both ſides; and a broad one to cover them, both theſe are thought to be ſome ancient works either of the *Romans*, *Danes* or *Saxons*.

In the Year 975. Queen *Elfrida* having barbarouſly murdered K. *Edward* her Son in Law, to ſet up her own Son K. *Etheldred*, afterward repenting of her cruel Fact, and to pacifie the crying Blood of her ſlain Son, built the two Monaſteries of *Amesbury* and *Worwel*, in *Wiltſhire* and *Hamſhire*, in which ſhe lived and died with great Penance; but theſe and the like Foundations being built with Rapine and Blood, have felt the Woe pronounced by the Prophet, *That the Stone in the wall ſhall cry, and the Beam out of the Timber ſhall anſwer it, woe to him that buildeth a Town with Blood, and eſtabliſheth a City with Iniquity*. In the Year 1154. K. *Stephen* ſeizing into his hands the Biſhop of *Salisbury*'s Caſtles, and Goods, a Synod was called by the Popes Legate, to right him, where the King was ſummoned to appear, to anſwer for his impriſoning of Biſhops, and depriving them of their Goods, which being a Chriſtian King he ought not to do. The King by his Attorney anſwers *That he had not arreſted him as a Biſhop, but as a Servant, who ought to make up his Accounts about his Employments*. This anſwer cauſed ſome Debates, they not preſuming to excommunicate the King without the Popes leave, and therefore they fell from Authority to Submiſſion, falling at his Feet, and beſeeching him to have pity on the Church, and not make diſſention between the Kingdom and the Prieſthood; which ſhews the greate magnanimity and courage of K. *Stephen*, that he was able to pull down the high Spirits of the Prelates in that time; this rich Biſhop of *Sa-*

liſbury, who built the Caſtle of the *Devizes*, and divers other ſtrong Caſtles in this County, being now thrown out of all his Grandeur, was ſo ſwallowed up of over much grief, that he ran mad, and ſpake and did he knew not what.

In 1275. K. *Edward* 1. calls a Parliament at *Salisbury*, without admitting of any Church-men to ſit therein, & *Marchian* his Treaſurer acquainting him, *That in Churches and Religious Houſes there was much Treaſure to be had, if it were lawful to take it*; He made no ſcruple of, it but cauſed it to be ſeized, and brought into his Exchequer; but finding that he had thereby diſpleaſed the Clergy, he bid them ask what they would have; who required the Repeal of the Statute of *Mortmain*, which hindered devout People at their death from giving all their Eſtates from their Children to the Church; To which the King anſwered, *That it was a Statute made by the whole Body of the Realm, and therefore it was not in his Power, who was but one Member of that Body, to repeal it.* In another Parliament at *Salisbury*, this King requires certain of his Lords to go to the Wars in *Gaſcoigu*, who all excuſing themſelves, the King in a great rage threatned they ſhould either go, or he would give their Lands to others that ſhould; Upon this the Earl of *Hereford* High-Conſtable, and the Earl of *Norfolk* Marſhal of *England*, declare, *That if the King went in Perſon they would attend him, otherwiſe not:* Which anſwer offended the King more, and being urged again, the, Earl Marſhal proteſted, he would willingly march in the Front, if the King went himſelf: But the King told him he ſhould go with any other without him; *I am not bound to do ſo*, (ſaid the Earl) *neither will I take this Journey without you:* The King ſwore by God he ſhould either go or hang; *And I ſwear by the ſame Oath*, ſaid the Earl, *I will neither go nor hang*; and ſo without leave departs; ſhortly after the two Earls, aſſembled many Noblemen, and 1500 Souldiers, wherewith they ſtand on their own Guard; but the King being obliged to go to *France*, condeſcends to their Demands, and deſires them, that ſince they would not go,

they

they would do nothing prejudicial to himſelf and the Kingdom in his Abſence; and upon his return the King ſolemnly confirmed the two great Charters, which appeaſed the preſent diſturbances.

In the 4. of Q. *Mary* 1454. exemplary Juſtice was done upon a great Perſon; for the Lord *Sturton*, a man much in the Queens favour, becauſe he was an earneſt Papiſt, was, for a Murther committed by him, arraigned and condemned, and he with 4 of his Servants were carried to *Salisbury*, and there in the Market-place hang'd, he having this favour to be hanged in a ſilken Halter, and his ſervants in places near adjoining where the Murther was committed. Not long ſince, ſaith Mr. *Clark*, a Souldier in *Salisbury* in the midſt of his Cups, drinking and carouſing in a Tavern, drank a Health to the Devil, ſaying, *That if the Devill would not come and pledge him, he would not believe their was either God or Devil*; whereupon his Companions being ſtruck with horrour, haſtened out of the Room, and preſently after hearing a hideous noiſe and ſmelling a ſtinking ſavour, the Vintner ran up into the Chamber, and coming in he miſſed his Gueſt, and found the Window broken, the Iron Bar in it bowed and all bloody; but the man was never heard of afterward.

Wiltſhire is divided into 29 Hundreds, wherein are 23 Market Towns, 304 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Salisbury*; It elects 34 Parliament-Men, and gives the Title of Earl to *Charles* L. *Pawlet*, as *Salisbury* doth to *James* Lord *Cecil*, *Marleburgh* to *William* L. *Ley*. and *Clarendon* to *Henry* L. *Hide*.

WORCESTERSHIRE hath *Staffordſhire* on the North, *Warwickſhire* on the Eaſt, *Gloceſterſhire* on the South, *Hereford* and *Shropſhire* on the Weſt; It is a County rich and populous, the ſoil is very fertile, producing beſides Corn, Cattle and Wood, abundance of Apples and Pears, which yield pleaſure to the ſight, and alſo profit; for with the juice they make great quantity of Sider and Perry, both very pleaſant and wholeſome, Drinks; The City of *Worceſter* is moſt pleaſantly ſeated,

and is admirable both in reſpect of the Antiquity and Beauty therof; It ſtandeth in a place riſing ſomewhat with a gentle aſcent by the River ſide, which hath a fair Bridge with a Tower over it; it is well and ſtrongly walled, and the Inhabitants are much enriched by the Trade of Clothing. It is 1650 paces about the Walls, through which 7 Gates give entrance, with 5 Watch Towers for defence, there are in it divers Churches beſide the Cathedral, which is ſeated on the Southſide of the City, and is an excellent fair building, adorned with the Tombs, and Monuments of K. *John*, Pr. *Arthur*, and divers of the *Beauchamps*. This City was ſet on Fire, and almoſt every one of the Citizens ſlain by K. *Hardicknute* 1041. for killing the Collectors of this *Daniſh* Tribute, yet was preſently repaired; but in 1113. a ſudden Fire happened, no body knew how, which burnt down the Caſtle, and the Cathedral Church, likewiſe in the troubles of K. *Stephen* it was twice defaced by the Flames, and made hopeleſs of Recovery, yet out of theſe a new *Phœnix* aroſe, and her Buildings were raiſed more ſtately than before, eſpecially the Cathedral. At *Droitwich* are three Fountains of Salt water, divided by a little Brook of freſh water paſſing between them, by the boiling of which ſalt water they make pure white ſalt.

Edmund Bonner, alias *Savage*, was born in this County, his Father was *John Savage*, a rich Prieſt in *Cheſhire*, his Mother was this Prieſts Concubine, a dainty Wench in her Youth, and a jolly Woman in her Age; ſhe was ſent out of *Cheſhire* to cover her ſhame, and laid down her burden at *Elmly* in this County, where this *bonny bouncing Babe* Bonner was born; in the Reign of K. *Hen.* 7. He was bred a Batchelor of the Laws in *Oxford*, and in K. *Hen.* 8. time he was made Doctor of the Laws, Archdeacon of *Leiceſter*, Maſter of Arts, Maſter of the Faculties under Archbiſhop *Cranmer*, and imployed in ſeveral Embaſſies beyond Sea; All this time *Bonner* was not *Bonner*, being as yet meek, merciful, and a great man for the L. *Cromwell*, as appeared by ſome tart printed Repartees betwixt him and *Stephen Gardener*. Indeed he had a

Body

Body and an half, but *corpulency* without *cruelty* is no ſin, and toward his old Age he was overgrown with fat, as Mr. *Fox*, who is charged to have perſecuted Perſecutors, with ugly Pictures doth repreſent him; not long after he was conſecrated Bp. of *London*, and under K. *Edward*, 6. being ordered to preach publickly concerning the Reformation, his faint and cold expreſſions thereof manifeſted that he had a mind rather to betray it, for which he was deprived of his Benefice; being reſtored to his Biſhoprick under Q. *Mary*, he cauſed the death of twice as many Martyrs as all the Biſhops of *England* beſide, juſtly occaſioning the Verſes made upon him.

If one for ſhedding Blood for Bliſs may hope,
Heavens wideſt gate for Bonner *doth ſtand ope.*

No body ſpeaking to *Bonner.*

All call thee cruel, and the ſponge of Blood,
But, Bonner, *I ſay thou art mild and good.*

Under Queen *Elizabeth* he was deprived and ſecured in the *Marſhalſea*, where he lived 10 Years in ſoft durance, and full plenty, his Face depoſing for his whole Body that he was not famiſhed, enjoying a great Temporal Eſtate by his Father; wherein as he was kept from doing hurt to others, ſo it kept others from doing hurt to him, who was ſo univerſally odious, that he had been ſtoned in the Streets if at Liberty: He died 1569. and was buried in *Barking* Church-Yard among Thieves and Murderers; but enough, if not too much of this *Heroſtratus*, who burnt ſo many *living Temples of the Holy Ghoſt*, and who, had he not been remembred by other Writers, had found no place here.

In the 18th of Queen *Elizabeth* 1576. *June* 20. *William Lumley* a poor man in the Pariſh of *Emely*, being kept in Priſon by a rich Widdow, and having a Mare of 22 years old, ſaith Mr. *Stow*, with Foal, within three days after ſhe Foaled a Female Colt, which immediately had an Udder, out of which was milked the ſame day a pint of Milk, and every day after it gave above three

pints, to the great relief of his Wife and Children, and continued to do ſo a long time, as was ſeen by many Thouſands. In her 35th year in the month of *March* were many great ſtorms of wind, which overturned Trees, Houſes, Steeples and Barns, and in *Bewdly* Forreſt in *Worceſterſhire* many Oaks were overthrown, in *Horton Wood* in this County above 1000 Oaks were blown down in one day,

Worceſterſhire is divided into ſeven Hundreds, wherein are 11 Market Towns, 152 Pariſh Churches, and is in the Dioceſs of *Worceſter*. It elects 9 Parliament Men, and gives the Title of Earl and Marqueſs to *Henry* L. *Somerſet*, L. Preſident of *Wales*.

YORKSHIRE hath *Weſtmoreland* and *Durham* on the North, *Lancaſhire* on the Weſt, *Derby*, *Nottingham*, and, *Lincoln ſhires* on the South, and the *German* Ocean on the Eaſt. 'Tis the greateſt of any County in *England*, placed under a temperate Climate, and ſo is indifferently fruitful, ſo that if one part of it be ſtony, ſandy, barren ground, another part is fruitful, and richly adorned with Cornfields; if it be here bare of Woods, you ſhall ſee it there ſhadowed with Forreſts full of Trees; If in one place it be Mooriſh, miery and unpleaſant, another preſents it ſelf to the Eye full of beauty and delightful variety. This County being ſo ſpacious, is divided into three parts, called the *Weſt-Riding*, the *Eaſt-Riding*, and the *North-Riding*; It produceth Corn, Cattle, Cloth, Knives, and Stockins. The City of *York* is very ancient, and formerly of ſo great eſtimation, that the *Roman* Emperours kept their Courts there; it is at this day the ſecond City of *Eng.* the faireſt in all the Country & a ſingular ſafeguard & ornament to all the *Northern* Parts; it is a large, ſtately, pleaſant place, well fortified, and beautifully adorned both with publick and private Buildings, Rich, Populous, and an Archbiſhops See; The River *Ouſe* flowing with a gentle ſtream from the North part Southward, cutteth it in twain, and maketh as it were two Cities, which are joined with a ſtrong Bridge,

whereon

whereon is a very great Arch; The West part is incompassed with a very fair Wall, and the River together foursquare, having an entrance only at one Gate, from which a long and broad street reacheth to the very Bridge, which is beautified with handsome Houses, with Gardens and Orchards on the back, and pleasant Fields behind; On the East side the Houses stand very thick, and the streets are narrower, being fortified with a strong wall, and is divided on the South-East with the deep Channel of the muddy River *Fosse*, which entring into the heart of the City, by a blind way, hath a Bridge over it with Houses built upon it, and so close ranged one by another, that it seems rather a street than a Bridge, and soon after runs into the *Ouse*, where a stately Castle formerly stood, which commanded the whole City, but it is now gone to decay; toward the North stands the Cathedral Church, an excellent, fair and stately Fabrick.

We read that *William the Conquerer*, after he had setled himself in this Kingdom, did much abridge the power of the Prelates in Temporals, ordaining that they should exercise no Temporal Authority at all; but yet in Spirituals he rather raised them, as appears by a passage between *Aldred* Archbishop of *York*, and this King; for one time upon denying a certain suit, the Archbishop in great discontent offered to go away, but the King for fear of his displeasure staid him, and fell down at his feet, desiring his pardon, and promising to grant his Suit; the King for some time lay at his feet, and the Noblemen that were present put the Prelate in mind that he should cause the King to rise; *Nay*, said the Archbishop, *let him alone, let him find what it is to anger St.* Peter. And as by this story we may see the insulting Pride of this Prelate in those days, so by another we may observe the equivocating falshood of another Prelate at that time, for *Stigand* A. B. of *Canterbury* would often swear, *he had not one penny upon Earth*, when under the Earth it was afterward found he had hidden great Treasure; It is also memorable, but scarce credible, of another Bishop,

who being accuſed of Simony, and denying it, the Cardinal before whom he was to anſwer, told him, *That a Biſhoprick was the gift of the Holy Ghoſt, and therefore to buy a Biſhoprick was againſt the Holy Ghoſt*, and thereupon bid him ſay, *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghoſt*, which the Biſhop beginning, and oft trying to do, ſaith our Hiſtorian, could never ſay, *and to the Holy Ghoſt*, but ſaid it plainly when he was put out of his Biſhoprick.

In the 19th of King *Henry* 3. 1235. there was a great dearth in *Eng.* ſo that many poor people died for want of food, the Rich being ſo cruelly covetous as not to relieve them; and among others *Walter Gray* A. B. of *York* had great ſtore of Corn, which he had horded for five years together, yet at that ſad time refuſed to beſtow any of it upon the neceſſities of the poor; but ſuſpecting that it might be deſtroyed by Vermine, he commanded it to be delivered to Huſbandman that lived in his Manors, upon condition to return him as much new Corn after Harveſt, but behold a terrible Judgment of God upon him for his covetouſneſs, when they came to one of his great ſtacks of Corn nigh the Town of *Ripon*, there appeared in the Sheaves all over the heads of Worms, Serpents and Toads; ſo that the Bailiffs were forced to build an high wall round about the ſtack of Corn, and then to ſet it on fire, leaſt the venemous Creatures ſhould have gone out, and poyſoned the Corn in other places; In the Reign of K. *Edward* 4. 1570. *George Nevil* Brother to the great Earl of *Warwick*, at his Inſtalment into his Archbiſhoprick of *York*, made a prodigious Feaſt to the Nobility, chief Clergy, and many Gentry, wherein he ſpent 300 Quarters of Wheat, 330 Tuns of Ale, 104 Tuns of Wine, 1 Pipe of ſpiced Wine, 80 fat Oxen, 6 wild Bulls, 1004 Sheep, 3000 Hogs, 300 Calves, 3000 Geeſe, 3000 Capons, 300 Pigs, 100 Peacocks, 200 Cranes, 200 Kids, 2000 Chickens, 4000 Pigeons, 4000 Rabbets, 204 Bittours, 4000 Ducks, 400 Herons, 200 Pheſants, 500 Partridges, 4000 Woodcocks, 400 Plovers, 100 Curlews, 100 Quales, 1000 Egrets,

Egrets, 200 Rees, above 400 Bucks, Does and Roe-Bucks, 1506 hot Veniſon Paſties, 4000 cold Veniſon Paſties, 1000 Diſhes of Jelly parted, 4000 Diſhes of Jelly plain, 4000 cold Cuſtards 2000 hot Cuſtards, 300 Pikes, 300 Breams, 8 Seals, 4 Porpuſſes, and 400 Tarts; At this Feaſt the E. of *Warwick* was Steward, the Earl of *Bedford* Treaſurer, the Lord *Haſtings* Controller, with many more noble Officers, 1000 Servitors, 62 Cooks, 515 Scullions. But about 7 Years after the King ſeized on all the Eſtate of this Archbiſhop, and ſent him over Priſoner into *France*, where he was bound in chains, and in great Poverty; Juſtice thus puniſhing his former prodigality.

The *Eaſt Riding* of *Yorkſhire* is divided into 4 Hundreds, wherein are 8 Market Towns; the *Weſt-Riding* is divided into 10 Hundreds, wherein are 24 Market Towns; the *North* is divided into 12 Hundreds, wherein are 17 Market Towns; it is in the Dioceſs of *York*, hath 563 Pariſh Churches, and elects 29 Parliament men; *York* gives the Title of Duke to His Royal Highneſs, *Richmond* that of Duke to *C. Lenos*, Son to the Dutcheſs of *Portſmouth*, *Hallifax* the Title of Earl to *G.* L. *Savil*; *Cleaveland* that of *Dutcheſs* to *Barbara* Lady *Villiers*; *Burlington* to L. *Boyl*; *Craven* to *W.* L. *Craven*; *Mulgrave* to *J.* L. *Sheffeild*, *Strafford* to *W.* L. *Wentworth*; and *Danby* to, *T.* L. *Oſborn*.

WALES.

THis Principality hath the *Severn* Sea on the South the *Iriſh* Ocean on the Weſt and North, and *England* on the Eaſt; It is 100 Miles from Eaſt to Weſt, and 120 from North to South; it conſiſteth of 3 parts, *Northwales*, *Powis*, and *Southwales*, wherein are contained 13 Shires or Counties, of which I have not room to give a particular account as before, but ſhall only obſerve what is memorable in each of them; the names thereof are *Angleſey*, *Brecknockſhire*, *Cardigan*, *Carmathan*, *Carnarvan*, *Denby*, *Flint*, *Glamorgan*, *Merioneth*, *Monmouth*, *Montgomery*, *Pembroke* and *Radnor*; The name of *Wales* ſome derive from *Idwallo* the Son of *Cadwallor*, who with the ſmall

Remainder of his *Britiſh* Subjects, made good the dangerous places of this Countrey againſt his Enemies, and was firſt called King of *Wales*: This Country is Mountainous and barren, not able to maintain its People, but by helps elſe where; their chief Commodities are courſe cloths, called *Welch* Freez, and Cottons; *Lewellin* Son of *Griffin*, the Brother of *David*, the laſt Soveraign Prince of *Wales*, of the Race of *Cadwallader*, was ſlain by K. *Edward* 1. 1282. whereby the Principality of *Wales* was added to the Crown of *England*, though it may be this Conqueſt happened not for want of Valour, ſince *Hen.* 2. in a Letter to *Emanuel* Emperour of *Conſtantinople* gives this Teſtimony of them: *The* Welch *Nation is ſo adventurous, that they dare encounter naked with armed men, ready to ſpend their blood for their Country, and pawn their Life for praiſe.*

Angliſey, is an Iſland ſeparated from the Continent by a ſmall and narrow Streight of the River *Menai*: In divers places in the low Fields and Champion Grounds of this County there are divers Trees digged out, black within like Ebony, and are uſed to inlay cupboards, *&c.* it is hard to reſolve how they came hither, ſome imagine the *Romans* cut them down as being the coverts of Rebellion, others think they fell of themſelves, and with their own Weight in thoſe wateriſh places buried themſelves, and that the clammy Bituminous ſubſtance that is found about them keeps them from Putrefaction: This Iſland yields ſuch plenty of Wheat, that they call it the *Mother of* Wales: He that relateth wonders, ſaith Dr. *Fuller*, walks on the edge of an houſe, if he be not careful of his Footing, down falls his credit. This ſhall make me exact in uſing my Authors words, That Cloaks, Hats and Staves caſt down from the top of an Hill, called *Munch-Denny*, or *Cadier Arthur*, which hath its top above the Clouds, in the County of *Brecknock*, will never fall, but are with the Air and Wind ſtill beaten back and blown up again, nor will any thing deſcend ſave a ſtone or ſome metalline ſubſtance: And that the *Miet Llynſavathan* within two miles of *Brecknock*, was once a fair City,

ty, still swallowed up by an Earthquake, which is not improbable, because all the highways of this Shire do lead thither, and *Ptolomy* speaks of a City called *Loventrium* hereabout, which is not now to be found; they say likewise, that at the end of Winter, when after a long frost the Ice of this Lake breaks, it makes a fearful noise like Thunder; *Giraldus Cambrensis* reporteth there is a Fountain in *Caermarthenshire*, which conformable to the Sea Ebbs and Flows twice in 24 hours: There are in this County strange Vaults under ground, supposed to be the Castles of People who were conquered in the Wars. Dr. *Ferrar* was Bishop of St. *Davids* in K. *Edward* 6. time, but in the Reign of Queen *Mary* he was sent for, and examined about his Faith by the Bishop of *Winchester*, who told him that the Queen and Parliament had altered Religion, and therefore required him to embrace the same; to which he answered, *That he had taken an Oath never to consent or agree that the Bishop of* Rome *should have any Jurisdiction in this Realm*, The Bishop of *Winchester* called him *froward Fellow, and false Knave*, and so returned him to Prison again; He was afterward examined before *Henry Morgan*, pretended Bishop of St. *Davids*, who requiring him to subscribe to several Articles, he refused it, or to recant any thing; whereupon he read the Sentence of Condemnation against him; then he was degraded and deliver'd to the secular Power, by whom he was carried to *Caermarthen*, there to be burned; a little before his Execution there came one to him, who much lamented the painfulness of his Death, to whom Dr. *Ferrar* answered, *That if he saw him once stir or move in the pains of his burning, he should then give no credit to the Doctrine he had taught*; and he was as good as his word, standing so patiently in the midst of the Flames that he never moved, holding up his stumps, till one with a staff dashed him on the head, whereby he fell down, and quietly resigned his Spirit to God.

There was at *Bangor* in *Carnarvanshire* a great Monastery, in which were many religious Monks, who lived by the sweet of their Brows, and the labour of their hands,

far

ſar unlike the Monks ſince: Out of this Monaſtery the Monks went to *Weſtcheſter* to pray for the good ſucceſs of their friends againſt the Heathen *Saxons*, continuing 3 days in faſting and Prayer; *Elfride* the *Saxon* King, ſeeing them ſo fervent in their Prayers, aſked what kind of men they were, and being told that they prayed for their Enemies; then ſaid he, *Though they carry no weapons yet they fight againſt us, and with their Prayers and Preaching proſecute us*; therefore after he had overcome the *Brittains*, he commanded his Souldiers to fall upon the unarmed Monks, of whom he murthered 1100; only 50 of them eſcaping: But God left not their death long unrevenged; for this cruel King was ſoon after killed in the field by the Chriſtian *Edwin*, who ſucceeded him in the Kingdom. It is ſaid, that there is a Lake in *Snowden-Hills* in this County, which hath a floating Iſland therein, but it ſeems it ſwims away from the ſight of thoſe who endeavour to diſcover it; they tell alſo of Fiſhes found here which have but one Eye, which yet men with two Eyes could never behold. The higheſt hill in *Denbyſhire* called *Moilenly*, hath a Spring of clear Water on the Top. In 1660. a very great well near *Chirk* Town in this County was dried up.

In *Flintſhire* is that excellent Well called St. *Winifrids* Well, or *Holy well*, ſo famous for cure of Aches and Lameneſs; When *K. Richard* 2. came to *Flintcaſtle*, being there received by *Henry* Duke of *Lancaſter*, as he was going from thence, they let looſe a Greyhound of the Kings, as was uſual whenever the King got on Horſeback, which Greyhound uſed to leap upon the Kings Shoulders, and fawn very much upon him; but at this time he leaped upon the Duke of *Lancaſter*, and fawned upon him in the ſame manner as he uſed to do on his Maſter; the Duke aſked the King what the Dog meant or intended; *It is an ill and unhappy Omen to me*, ſaid the King, *but a fortunate one to you; for he acknowledges thee to be King, and that thou ſhalt reign in my ſtead*: This he ſaid with a preſaging mind upon a light occaſion, which yet in ſhort time came to paſs. It is reported that in an Iſland in *Glamorganſhire*

morganſhire there appeareth a Chink in a Rock or Cliff, to which if you lay your Ear, you may eaſily hear a noiſe like Smiths at work, one while blowing of the Bellows, another while ſtriking of the Hammer, the grinding of Iron Tools, the hiſſing of Steel Gads, yea the puffing noiſe of a Fire in a Furnace: There is alſo at *Newton* on the Bank of the River *Ogmore* in this Shire, a Well where at full Sea in the Summer you can ſcarce get a diſhful of Water whereas at the Ebb you may eaſily get a pail-full. On the top of a hill called *Mynd-Morgan* is a Monument with a ſtrange character, which the Inhabitants thereabout ſay, if any man read the ſame, he will dye ſhortly after, whereby I ſuppoſe they mean, that it is impoſſible to be read; There is a Lake in *Merionthſhire* near *Bala*, containing near 160 Acres of ground, into which the River *Dee* runs, and goes through it without mixing their Waters; This *Pemble-Meer* doth not ſwell with all the Waters and Land-floods which fall from the Mountains unto it, but a ſmall blaſt of Wind will make it mount above its bounds and Banks. I know not whether it be worth relating, what is known for a truth of a Market Town called *Dogelthy* in this Shire, 1. That the Walls thereof are 3 miles high; that is, *The Mountains that ſurround it.* 2. That men come into it over the water, but go out of it under the water; *becauſe they go in over a fair Bridge, but the water falling from a Rock is conveyed in a wooden Trough, under which Travellers muſt make ſhift to paſs.* 3. The Steeple thereof doth grow therein; *ſince the* Bells *(if they have more than one) hang in an Yew-tree.* 4. There are more Ale-Houſes than Houſes; *for Tenements are divided into* 2 *or* 3 *Tipling-Houſes, and Barns without Chimneys are uſed to that purpoſe.*

In the Year 1661. *Dec.* 20. about Sunſetting the Inhabitants of *Weſton* in *Montgomeryſhire*, diſcovered a great number of Horſemen about 400 paces from them, marching two a Breaſt in Military order upon the Common, and were half an hour before the Reer came up, ſeeming to be about 500 in all; the ſpectators were amazed, thinking them to be an Army of Roundheads going to releaſe

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the Priſoners at *Montgomery*, (there being at that time ſeveral Miniſters and Gentlemen in Priſon) and therefore ſeveral of them went to the top of the next hill, where they had another full view of them, and could diſtinguiſh their Horſes to be of ſeveral Colours, as white, grey, black, *&c.* and that they marched in 3 Companies, and betwixt every Diviſion they had 2 Horſe colours flying; but as they drew toward them they ſtill marched from them, ſo that they could not come nearer than 100 Yards; they aſked a man (who was thatching a Houſe all that day, which they judged the Horſemen went by) whether he ſaw all thoſe Souldiers which marched by, who ſaid that he ſaw none, neither was there any Tract of the Horſes to be ſeen that night, nor the next morning, ſo that they concluded it to be a wonderful Apparition, and depoſed the Truth of theſe particulars before the Lord *Herbert*, and ſeveral other Juſtices of the Peace of this County; at the ſame time a Woman coming from *Biſhops* Caſtle over the ſame Common, fell off her Horſe, being much terrified with the ſight of a blazing Star, which ſhe and 6 men with her ſaw, ſometimes white and ſometimes red, with a Tail like an Arrow, which ſeemed to hang juſt over their heads from *Biſhops Mount* to this common, being 3 miles, and the People of the houſe where the Woman fell, when they came out, ſaw the Star alſo.

The Moor or March near *Chepſtow* in *Monmouthſhire* ſuffered great loſs in 1606. by the River *Severn*, overflowing its banks, and drowning many Cattle and ſome People, and overthrowing divers Houſes. *Merlin* Propheciſed, *That when a ſtout Prince with a freckled Face ſhould paſs over a Ford called* Rydpencarn *in a River called* Nantpencarn, *the* Welch *ſhould be conquered, and therefore when K.* Hen. 2. who was freckle faced, paſſed over it, the *Welchmen* remembring this Prophecy, through too much credulity ſubmitted themſelves, and it may be the King thinking their hearts might fail them, choſe to go over this Ford to facilitate his Conqueſts. In the Reign of K. *Henry* 1. by the breaking in of the Sea a great part of

Flanders

Flanders was drowned, whereupon a great number of *Flemings* petitioned the King for ſome place to inhabit in; who accordingly aſſigned them *Pembrokeſhire* in *Wales*, where their poſterity continue to this day; when King *Hen.* 2 was at St. *Davids* in this County, and from thence in a clear day diſcovered the Coaſts of *Ireland*, in a huffing Bravado he ſaid, *I with my Ships am able to make a Bridge thither, if it be no farther*: Which Speech of his being related to *Murchard* K. of *Lemſter* in *Ireland*, he aſked whether he did not ſay *He would do with the help of God*; and when it was anſwered, that he made no mention of God he chearfully ſaid, *Then I fear him the leſs, ſince he truſted more to himſelf than to the help of God.* The ſame K. *Henry* returning out of *Ireland*, arrived at St. *Davids*, where being told, *That the Conqueror of* Ireland *returning that way, ſhould die upon a ſtone called* Lech-laver *near the Church Yard*; he thereupon before a multitude of People paſſed over it, and reproving the *Welchmen*, ſaid, *Now who will hereafter credit that Lyar* Merlin? *Radnor* hath a ſharp and cold Air becauſe of the Snow lying long unmelted under the ſhady Hills and hanging Rocks, whereof there are many. In the Reign of K. *William* the Conqueror upon the Sea ſhore in *Wales* was found the Body of *Gawen*, Siſters Son to *Arthur* the great King of the *Brittains*, reported to be 14 Foot in length. In 1662. *July* 2. were ſeen above 100 Porpuſſes together near *Newport*; which ſeemed very ſtrange and prodigious to the Inhabitants.

In theſe 13 Shires, which I have curſorily run over there are reckoned 1 Chaſe, 13 Forreſts, 36 Parks, 230 Rivers, 100 Bridges, 4 Cities, 55 Market Towns, and 41 Caſtles of old Erection; 4 Biſhopricks, St. *Aſaph*, *Bangor*, St. *Davids* and *Llandaff*, and 1016 Pariſh Churches; it elects 30 Parliament Men; *Angleſey* gives the Title of Earl to *Arthur* L. *Anneſly*, *Brecknock* to *James* L. *Butler* (who is alſo D. of *Ormond*) *Cardigan* to *Thomas* L. *Brudenel* *Caernarvan* to *Charles* L. *Dormer*, *Denby* to *William* L. *Feilding*, *Glamorgan* to *Henry* L. *Somerſet* (who is Marqueſs of *Worceſter*) *Pembroke* to *Philip* L. *Herbert*, who

who is likewiſe E. of *Montgomery*, *Monmouth* the Title of Duke to *James Fitz-Roy*; and *Radnor* the Title of Earl to *John* L. *Roberts*.

SCOTLAND.

THis Kingdom is ſeparated from *England* by the Rivers *Tweed* and *Solway*, and the *Cheviot* Hills reaching from one River to the other on the South. It hath on the Eaſt the *German* Ocean, on the North the Iſles of *Orkney*, and the *Deucalidonian* Sea and *Ireland* on the Weſt; It is a fair and ſpacious Country, 480 miles in length, but in breadth much leſs, no place being 60 miles from the Sea; It is divided into *Highland* and *Lowland*, the People of the *Highland* living on the Weſtern parts of *Scotland* have ſome Civility, but thoſe in the out Iſles are very barbarous; The *Lowlanders* are in diſpoſition and language much like the *Engliſh*; *Scotland* is far more barren than *England*; the chief Commodities are courſe Cloths, Freeze, Fiſh, Hides, Lead, Oar, *&c.* The principal Rivers are *Forth*, *Clyde*, *and Tay*, all Navigable; There are two Univerſities, St. *Andrews* and *Aberedeen*, and 2 Archbiſhops, and 12 Biſhops; The Nobility, and Gentry are great Affecters of Learning, and therefore do not only frequent their own Univerſities, but travel into Forreign parts for improvement; It is divided into 34 Shires or Counties, the Regal City therefore is *Edenburgh*, ſeated in *Lothian*, where is the Royal Pallace; it conſiſts principally of one Street about a mile long, into which run many Lanes, ſo that the whole compaſs may be about three miles; It is ſtrengthned by a Caſtle that Commands the Town. *Scot.* was once Inhabited by 2 Populous Nations the *Scots and Picts*, till after long Wars the *Scots* prevailing, they utterly extinguiſhed not only the Kingdom, but the name of *Picts*; Moſt memorable was that Fortification drawn from *Abercorn* upon the Frith of *Edenburgh* to the *Frith* of *Dumbritton* opening upon the Weſt Sea, where *Julius Agricola* ſet the limits of the *Roman* Empire; at this place began the great Wood *Calidonia*, famous for the Wild white Bulls bred therein, with Manes like Lyons thick and curled, ſo fierce and cruel by Nature, and ſo hateful to Mankind, that they abhorred whatever was handled or breathed on by them. The Cattle in *Scotland* are ſmall, but many. Fiſh ſo plentiful, that in ſome places men on Horſeback hunt Salmons with ſpears; The Iſlands belonging to it are the *Weſtern*, the *Orkney*, and the *Shetlands* in number above 300.

They have infinite numbers of Barnacles or *Soland* Geeſe, ſo that they even darken the light of the Sun; theſe Geeſe are moſt plentiful about the *Baſs* near *Edenburgh*, and hither they bring an incredible number of Fiſhes, and withal ſuch abundance of ſticks, and little twigs to build their Neſts, that the People are very plentifully provided of Fewel, who alſo make great gain of their Feathers and Oyl. There have been great diſputes among the Learned

ned about the generation of theſe Geeſe, ſome holding that they were bred of the leaves of the Barnacle Tree falling into the Waters, others that they are bred of moiſt rotten wood lying in the Waters, but it is ſince found that they come of an Egg, and are hatched like all other Geeſe; There is a water in this Country called *Merton* Lake, part of whoſe Waters are frozen in Winter, and part not; In the Lake of *Lennox*, being 24 miles in compaſs, the Fiſh are generally without Finns, and yet there is great abundance of them; It is ſaid, that when there is no wind ſtirring, the waters of this Lake are ſo Tempeſtuous, that no Marriner dares venture on it; They write alſo of a deaf ſtone 12 foot high, and 33 foot thick, of this rare quality, that a Muſket ſhot off the one ſide, cannot be heard by a man ſtanding on the other, theſe wonders are reported by *Hector Boëtius*, and if not true, let him bear the blame. Near *Falkirk* remain the ruins and marks of a Town ſwallowed up by an Earthquake, and the void place is filled with water, ſaith *Lithgow*. The *Lough Lemond* turneth ſticks into ſtones, in which are ſeveral Iſlands, and one of them which is full of Graſs, Ruſhes, and Reeds ſwims about the Lake; near a place called *Dyſert* in *Fife* by the Sea ſide, is a Heath where there is great plenty of earthly *Bitumen*; In the Country of *Argile* at this day, ſaith *Cambden*, are Kine and red Deer ranging wild upon the Hills; Between the Coaſt of *Cathneſs* and *Orkney* is a dreadful *Frith* or Gulf, in the North end of which, by reaſon of the meeting of 9 contrary Tides or Currents, is a *Maleſtream* or great Whirlpool, which whirleth continually about, and if any Ship, Boat, or Bark come within the reach thereof, they muſt quickly throw over ſomething into it, as a Barrel, a piece of Timber or the like, or elſe the Veſſel will inevitably be ſwallowed up, which the *Cathneſs* and *Orkney* Marriners know very well, and obſerve it as a conſtant cuſtom to redeem themſelves that way from danger. Toward the North of *Scotland* ſaith *Speed*, there be Mountains all of Alabaſter, and ſome all of Marble; At the mouth of the River *Frith* in the main Sea, is a very high Rock, out of whoſe top a ſpring of water runs abundantly; The Snow lies all the year upon the Hills in *Roſs*; A large piece of Amber ſaith *Cambden*, as big as a Horſe was found not long ſince upon the Coaſt of *Buquan*, in which County they ſay Rats are never ſeen, and if any be brought thither they will not live. It is credibly reported, ſaith *Ortelius*, that there is a Stone found in *Argile*, which if covered a while with Straw or Flax, it will ſet it on fire. The Snow lies all the year long upon the Hills in *Roſs*.

It is recorded that *Sergius* K. of *Scots*, was ſo addicted to Harlots, that he neglected his own Wife, and drove her to ſuch poverty, that ſhe was forced to wait upon another Noblewoman for her living, whereupon watching her opportunity, ſhe ſlew her Husband in Bed, and her ſelf after. The Caſtle of *Edenburgh* was built by

Cruthenus

Cruthenus King of the *Picts*, and called *Maiden Castle*, because the Daughters of the *Pictish* Kings were there kept working with their Needles till they were married; *Ethus* King of *Scots* was almost as swift in running as a Stag or Greyhound, and therefore called Wing-footed, but utterly unfit for Government, being cowardly, and a slave to Pleasure. In the time when the Barbarous and bloody *Danes* raged in *England*, they came to *Coldingham*, a Nunnery on the hither part of *Scotland*, where *Ebba* the Prioress, with the rest of the Nuns cut off their own Noses and Lips, chusing rather to preserve their Virginities from the *Danes*, than their beauty or favour, whereupon these cruel Heathens burnt their Monastery and all of them therein.

Malcolm King of *Scots* was a very magnificent and couragious Prince in 1067. of which he gave proof in the beginning of his Reign, for being informed of a Conspiracy against his life, he dissembled the knowing of it, till being abroad one day a hunting, he took one of the chief Conspirators aside, challenged him as a Traitor, adding; *Here now is a fit place to do that manfully, which you intended to perform by Treachery; now if you have any valour, kill me honourably, and none being present you can incur no danger.* With this Speech of the King, the man was so daunted, that he fell at his Feet, confessed his fault, asked forgiveness, and proved ever after Faithful and Loyal. This King repealed that barbarous Statute of K. *Eugenius* 3 by the persuasion af his Virtuous Lady *Margaret*, Sister to K. *Edward Atheling*, which ordained, *That when a man was married, his Lord should lye with his Bride the first night*; He allowing it to be Redeemed with half a Mark of Silver, which sum is to this day put into the Leases which the Lords make to their Vassals; this King besieging *Aldwich* Castle, an *English* Knight unarmed, only with a light Spear in his hand, on the end of which he carried the Keys of the Castle, came riding into the Camp, where being brought to the King, and bowing his Spear, as though he intended to present him with the Keys, ran him into the left Eye, and left him for dead, and by the swiftness of his Horse escaped; hence some say came the great Family of the *Piereyes*; His Queen hearing of her Husbands and Sons death, beseeched the Almighty that she might not survive them, and had her desire, dying within 3 days after.

In 1137 *Kentigern* was Bishop of *Glasgow*, a man of rare Piety, and exceeding bountiful to the poor; It is recorded that an Honourable Lady having lost a Ring which her Husband gave her, as she crossed the River *Clyd*, her Husband grew Jealous as if she had bestowed it on one of her Lovers; upon which she went to *Kentigern*, intreating his help for the safety of her honour; who after he had used his Devotions, went to the River, and spoke to one who was fishing, to bring him the First Fish he caught, which he doing, the Ring was found in the Fishes Mouth, and the Bishop

sent

sent it to the Lady, who was thereby freed of her Husbands Jealousy; This good Bishop, saith, *A. B. Spotswood*, lived till he was 185 years old.

In 1550. The Persecution waxing hot in *Scotland* against the Protestants, many Prodigious signs were observed, saith, A.B. *Spotswood*, a Comet like a fiery broom or besom flamed the whole months of *November*, *December*, and *January*; great Rivers in the midst of Winter were dryed up, and in Summer swelled so high, that divers Villages were therewith drowned, and numbers of Cattle feeding in the low grounds were carried into the Sea; Whales of an huge bigness were cast up in divers parts of the River *Forth*, Hailstones as big as Pigeons Eggs fell in many places, which destroyed abundance of Corn; And which was most Terrible, a fiery Dragon was seen flying near the Earth, and vomiting out Fire both day and night, which continued a long time, and so affrighted the People, that they were fain to watch their Houses and Cornyards continually, for fear they should have been burnt. About which time the Qu. Mother of *Scotland* having received aid from *France*, forced the Protestants for a while to retire toward the Highlands, whereupon she scoffingly said, *Where is now their God, my Gods stronger than theirs, even in* Fife; but her boasting lasted not long, for within a few days 600 Protestants beat above 4000 *French* and *Scots*; This same Qu. Mother, when some *English* and *Scotch* attempted to take *Leith* by Storm, and many of them were slain, because the Scaling Ladders were too short, beholding the slaughter from *Edenburgh* Castle she burst forth into a great Laughter, saying, *Now will I go to Mass, and praise God for what mine Eyes have seen*; And when the *French* had stripped the slain, and laid the naked bodies along the Walls, the Queen looking on them, jeeringly said; *Yonder are the fairest Tapestries that ever mine Eyes beheld; I wish that all the Fields which are between* Leith *and this place were all strewed with the same Stuff*; But her Joy was very short, for presently after a Fire kindled in *Leith*, which burnt up all her Store houses and Provisions for her Army, and the Queen Mother for grief fell sick and died, And thus much for *Scotland*.

IERLAND.

THis Kingdom is invironed on all sides by the Ocean, parted from *Brittain* by a violent and Tempestuous Sea called St. *Georges* Channel, scituate on the West of *Brittain*, next to which it is the biggest Island of *Europe*; containing in length 300. and in breadth 120 miles.

They discourse that the Christian Faith was first Preached to them by St. *Patrick*, who is therefore very considerable among them, and their Titular Saint; In one of those little Islands in *Loughdirg*, there is a place very famous, called St. *Patricks Purgatory*,

tory, into which whoſoever had the courage to enter, & remain there the appointed time, did ſee and ſuffer very ſtrange and terrible things, and to beget the greater reputation to this fictitious Purgatory, the People were made to believe, that St. *Patrick*, 400 years after Chriſt, had obtained the ſame by his Prayers, to convince unbelievers of the immortality of the Soul, and the Torments the wicked ſuffer after this life; though it is certain nothing of this was known till long after the death of this Holy Perſon, but about the latter end of K. *James* the truth of the matter was diſcovered by the E. of *Cork* and the L. *Chancellor*, who deſirous to know the truth, ſent ſome Perſons of Quality to inquire exactly into it; who found that this miraculous Cave deſcending down to the bottom of Hell, was no other but a little Cell digged out of the Rocky ground, without any Winnows or holes, ſo as the door being ſhut, it was utterly dark, being of ſo little depth that a tall man could not ſtand upright in it; and of no greater capacity than to hold 6 or 7 Perſons. Now when any deſired to go this Pilgrimage, he was kept faſting & watching by the Fryars and told wonderful ſtories, ſo that being throughly affrighted, and then put in, he came out in a few hours all amazed, & told ſtrange ſtories of his going under ground *&c.* To prevent this deluſion for the future, the Lords, Juſtices cauſed the Fryars to depart, and laid the hole, open, and expoſed to the Air.

The Earl of *Kildare* being charged before K. *Henry* 7. for burning the Cathedral of *Caſſiles*, & many witneſſes ready to prove, it he ſuddenly confeſſed it to be true, to the great ſurprize of the Council, wondring how he would juſtify it; By Jeſus, *ſaith he I would never have done it, if it had not been told me the Archbiſhop was within it*; and becauſe the Biſhop was one of the chief Accuſers, the K. laughed at the plainneſs of the man, to hear him alledge that for excuſe, which did chiefly aggravate his Crime.

Ireland is divided into 4 Provinces, *Monſter*, *Lamner*, *Connaught*, & *Ulſter*, wherein are 33 Counties; *Dublin* is the Metropolis, ſeated on the River *Liffie* in which is an Univerſity; It hath 4 Archbiſh & 19 Biſh. F I N I S.

The Names of all the Counties in *England*, with the pages where each is to be found.

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